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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 2085)

Name of Candidate	RITWIK MEHTA		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	149946
Center	MUKHERJEE NAGAR, DELHI	Date	26/07/2023

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
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9	10	
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11	15	
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16	15	
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18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न–पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **HINDI & ENGLISH**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं **हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी** में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. पाल साम्राज्य को बौद्ध कला के विशिष्ट रूप के लिए जाना जाता है। इस संदर्भ में, कला के क्षेत्र में पाल वंश के योगदानों पर चर्चा कीजिए।
The Pala Empire is known for a distinctive form of Buddhist art. In this context, discuss the contributions made by the Pala dynasty towards art. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Pala empire emerged in Eastern India as a strong power in the aftermath of Harsha's death and patronized Buddhism (especially Vajrayana Buddhism)

Distinctive contributions to Buddhist art

• Buddhist kings
• 9th c - 11th c

PALA DYNASTY

① Pala bronzes ⇒ found at Nalanda etc → depiction of Buddha in various mudras

② Mural paintings at viharas ⇒ depiction of Bodhisattvas

③ Architectural design ⇒ mahaviharas dedicated to Buddhism @ Odantpuri, Sompura etc ⇒ emerged as centres of Buddhist learning.

Pala dynasty's impact on art went beyond Buddhism as they contributed to ⇒

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① Temple architecture ⇒ including Hindu (Shaiva) temple

(eg) → Vanga style / Pala style at Ramvati by Rampala

② Sculpture making traditions } bronze, stone, terracotta

(eg) → continued Nalanda bronze sculpting traditions

③ Painting ⇒ founder of miniature art in India with depiction of Geeta Govinda manuscripts in subdued colours.

The role of Pala dynasty in India's cultural heritage also includes contributions made to Buddhist literature, Bengali etc.

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2. आदि शंकराचार्य ने अपनी महान क्षमता से हिंदू धर्म को पुनः स्थापित किया और उत्कृष्ट स्पष्टीकरण प्रस्तुत करते हुए वैदिक परंपरा को फिर से प्रतिष्ठित किया। चर्चा कीजिए।
It was Adi Shankaracharya's genius that reinvented Hinduism and re-established the Vedic tradition with excellent commentaries. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Adi Shankaracharya was a 12th c. Bhakti reformer who initiated revival of Hinduism in India in the face of growing Buddhist influence.

Role of Adi Shankara in reinventing Hinduism

① Revisionary emphasis on Vedanta that is an orthodox school of philosophy in India.

② Derived his theory of Non-Dualism / Monism called Advaita from Upanishads

③ Wrote commentaries on Brahmasutra → highlighting the Advaita viewpoint.

④ Opposed influence of Buddhism and Jainism as he saw them to be opposed to vedic philosophy.

⑤ Provided coherent philosophy that could be used to propound Hindu doctrines without resorting to dualism.

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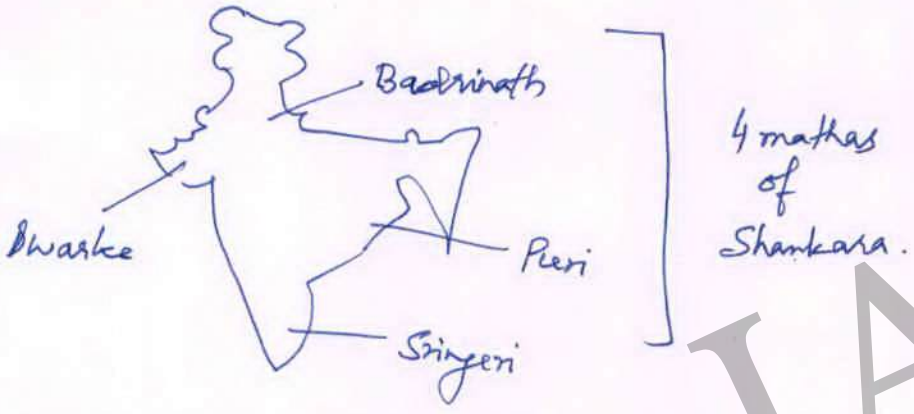
Role played through his organizational efforts

① He set up 4 mathas / ashrams for spread of Hinduism (esp Shaiva).



② Participated in debates / discussions with scholars to propound his viewpoint.

③ Taught pupils like Padampada who further spread Advaita philosophy.

The significance of Adi Shankara to revival of Vedic philosophy is visible in the recent unveiling of his statue by PM Modi.

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3. औपनिवेशिक वन नीतियां स्थानीय लोगों के कल्याण और पर्यावरण की चिंता किए बिना ब्रिटिश साम्राज्य की जरूरतों से प्रेरित थीं। भारत के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।
The colonial forest policies were driven by the needs of the British Empire with no concern for the well-being of the locals and the environment. Discuss in the context of India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

The British empire in pursuit of colonial goals exploited Indian forests for their resources (especially timber). This was often done under guise of forest protection.

Elements of Colonial forest policies

- ambiguity with regards to minor forest produce
- timber and major forest produce reserved as govt. property
- removal of and non-recognition of rights of tribals in forests (esp. Central & Eastern India)
- Introduction of Forest Act 1927 → concept of reserved and protected forest

These policies betrayed lack of concern for local well being and environment as ⇒

① Loss of livelihood opportunities for tribals
② Loss of traditional sources of food, fodder

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and agriculture (shifting cultivation)

③ Led to displacement of tribals → poverty and alienation

④ Large scale destruction of forests through timber collection activities.

⑤ No concern for biodiversity and ecosystem conservation.

⑥ Lack of scientific policies in forestry which led to exploitation of resources

However, colonial policies also laid groundwork for future conservation:

① Acts such as CNT and SPT Act in Jharkhand ⇒ prevented tribal land and forest alienation

② Indian Forest Act 1927 ⇒ primary legislation governing forests in India

③ Set up ~~for~~ FRI at Dehradun ⇒ premier forestry institute of Asia.

The colonial policies must be studied to remove exploitative elements while retaining its ~~many~~ scientific aspects

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4. पंचशील और गुटनिरपेक्षता के सिद्धांतों ने शीत युद्ध के दौर में भारत को मार्गदर्शित करने में सहायता प्रदान की। चर्चा कीजिए।
The principles of Panchsheel and Non-Alignment aided India in maneuvering the Cold War era. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

The Non Aligned Movement (NAM) based on principles of Pamchsheel was spearheaded by India.

- non-interfesna
- respect for territorial intergrity
- mutual cooperation
- non-aggression
- peaceful coexistence

This allowed India and other NAM nations to avoid the pressures of the Cold War era.

Role of NAM in Cold War

① Emphasis on peaceful coxistence → allowed India to avoid being pulled into military alliances (eg: Pakistan joined ~~SATO~~ SEATO)

② Allowed pursuit of independent foreign policy with aim of mutual benefit/cooperation

③ It also allowed India to provide principalled leadership on global fora.
(eg → mediator in Korean war

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(4) The principles of Neo Economic order at NAM helped India to achieved inclusive economic structure with emphasis on poverty alleviation.

However, the principles of Panchsheel and NAM often served as limitations as well -

(1) Panchsheel did not prevent India from being pulled into wars → 1965 - China
→ 1971 - Pakistan

(2) India had to suspend policy of non-interference during war of Liberation for Bangladesh.

(3) NAM was seen as Team B of Soviet bloc ⇒ led to US hostility

(eg) → role of US during 1971 war
→ nuclear apartheid after Smiling Buddha

(4) India's political class showed Soviet bias

(eg) → no criticism of USSR invasion of Afghanistan.

While NAM and Panchsheel were not based in realpolitik, they gave India's constitutional committment in Article 51, a principled expression.

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5. 19वीं शताब्दी के यूरोप की प्रमुख विशेषताओं में से एक राष्ट्रीय एकीकरण के लिए संघर्ष था। जर्मनी के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।
One of the major features of the 19th century Europe was the struggle for national unification. Discuss in the context of Germany. (Answer in 150 words) 10

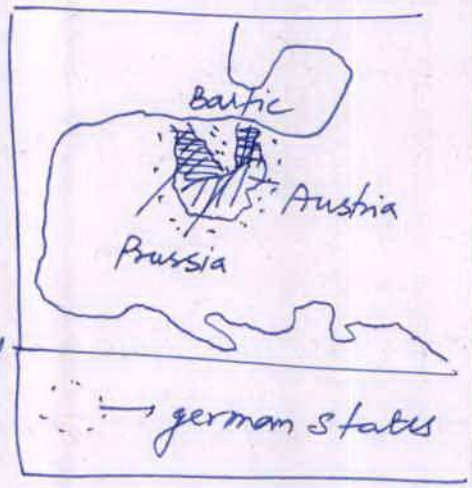
The Napoleonic wars in early 18th c. had led to growth of nationalist sentiments as monarchies crumbled. This swept a wave of national unification movements.

- Italian unification → 1871
- Balkan unification ⟹ Yugoslavia in 20th c
- German unification → 1871

German struggle for national unification

Reasons

- defeat of Holy Roman Emperor (of Austria) by Napoleon
- growth of nationalism on account of shared language / ethnicities



- role of Bismarc, Chancellor of Prussia who envisioned strong unified Germany
- Treaty of Vienna ⇒ established German confederacy
- desire for liberal democracy.

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Timeline of German unification

1815 (German Confederacy formed at Vienna) → 1863 (Bismarck as Prussian Chancellor) ⇓ annexation of northern states → 1866 (Prussia-Austrian war → defeat of Austria) → 1870 (Franco-Prussian war → defeat of France) ⇓ Southern states joined → 1871 German unification under Prussia and Wilhelm I crowned as Emperor.

Impact of such unification efforts

① creation of strong militarized nation-states with strong central govt.

② growth of Industrial Revolution → Colonialism

③ friction within these new nations → led to World war I (eg: Germany seen as aggressor)

The unification movements of Europe served to inspire Indian leaders who also strengthened national struggle.

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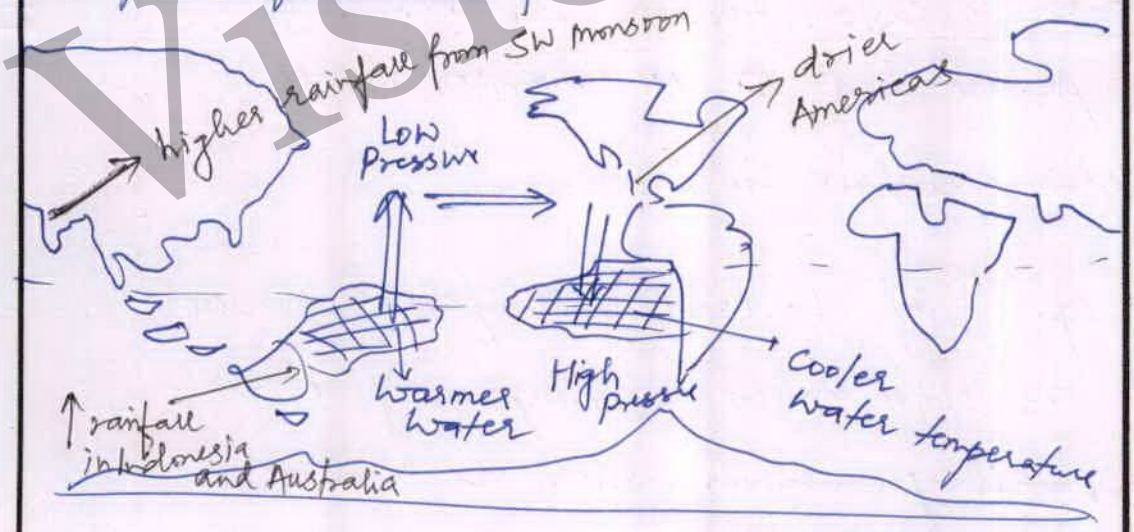
6. ट्रिपल डिप ला नीना परिघटना क्या है? विश्व के विभिन्न क्षेत्रों पर इसके संभावित प्रभाव की विवेचना कीजिए।
What is the triple dip La Niña phenomenon? Discuss its likely impact on different regions of the world. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Triple dip La Niña phenomenon refers to 3 continuous years where La Nina episode has persisted. Recently in 2022, it was seen that a triple dip La Niña episode occured for first time in this century.

La Niña
- → part of ENSO cycle
- → Cooler central, and eastern pacific waters
- → High pressure over central and eastern Pacific

Impact of La Niña



The triple dip La Nina led to extreme events ~~impacts~~ due to intensification of its impacts.

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① Higher rainfall from SW monsoon in S. Asia

- India saw excess rainfalls
- floods in Pakistan inundated 60% of nation
- higher rice yields in India

② Dry conditions in America ⇒ driest August expierenced. However, cold waters led to ↑ upwelling of nutrients thus better fish catch off S. America.

③ Dry conditions in Europe ⇒ instances of Heatwaves and wildfires.

④ Floods in Eastern Australia on account of Low pressure and NE monsoon winds.

⑤ Higher rainfall in Indonesia.

The impact of La Nina is complex to predict and is often based on interplay of other atmospheric phenomenon such as Indian Ocean bipole, Madden Julian Oscillation etc.

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7. जलविद्युत दुनिया भर में निम्न कार्बन उत्सर्जन वाली ऊर्जा आपूर्ति का एक प्रमुख स्रोत है, लेकिन भारत के कुल इलेक्ट्रिसिटी मिक्स में इसकी हिस्सेदारी बहुत कम बनी हुई है। चर्चा कीजिए।
Hydropower is a major source of low-carbon energy supply across the world but its share in India's total electricity generation remains low. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

India aims to fulfil its Panchamrit promise of Net 0 emissions by 2070. For this an energy transition model based on renewable energy is critical.

Hydropower accounts for only 11.2% of India's electricity mix.

Reasons for hydropower's dominance in RNE of world

① technology is comparatively cheaper than solar, wind
② Scalable → from large to small HEP
③ Rivers are more reliable sources of renewable energy.

India's potential
→ 23 major river basins
→ youthful nature of Himalayan rivers
→ waterfall line in northern peninsula and W. Ghats

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Reasons for poor share in India

① Cumbersome land and forest clearance process

② opposition to large HEP projects (eg: Vishnugad)

③ threat of disasters such as reservoir induced seismicity (Koyna) and flooding (Chamoli)

④ High cost of setting up large HEP ⇒ Concious shift towards small hydropower projects

eg → inclusion in RNE for priority sector lending.

⑤ Climate change ⇒ variability in water flow especially in Peninsular rivers.

⑥ water disputes due to it being a state subject. ⇒ leads to political opposition

eg → Odisha - Chattisgarh over Mahanadi

However, the share of hydroelectricity will increase in future on account of

- treaties with Nepal, Bhutan (Arun II HEP)
- emphasis on small HEP
- inter/linking projects

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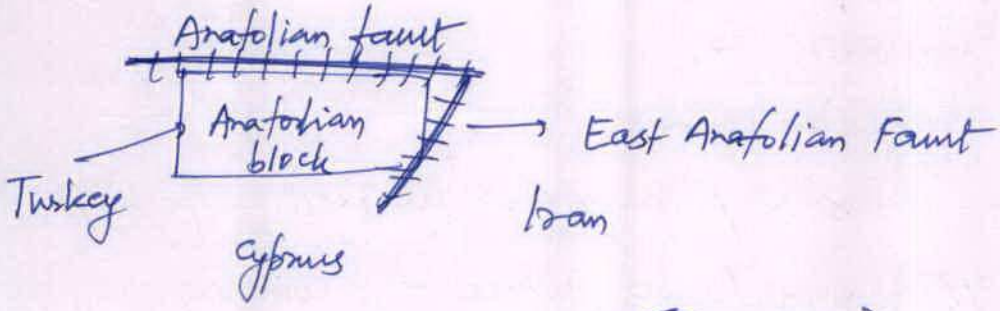
8. हाल ही में तुर्किये में आए भूकंप के संदर्भ में, सिस्मिक गैप की अवधारणा की व्याख्या कीजिए। साथ ही, भूकंप की तीव्रता के लिए उत्तरदायी कारणों को भी सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

Explain the concept of seismic gap in the context of the recent earthquake in Turkey. Also, enlist the reasons behind the severity of the earthquake. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Seismic gap refers to the absence of a strike slip earthquake for a long duration in a region which lies on an active fault. It is an indicator that a sudden release of strain is possible leading to devastating earthquake.

eg → Turkey that experienced a 7.6 magnitude earthquake in Feb 2023 → after decades

Turkey case study ⇒ lies on a complex but active transform fault region



In 2023, strike slip fault ( )
i.e. caused by horizontal motion of plates along the Anatolian fault took place.

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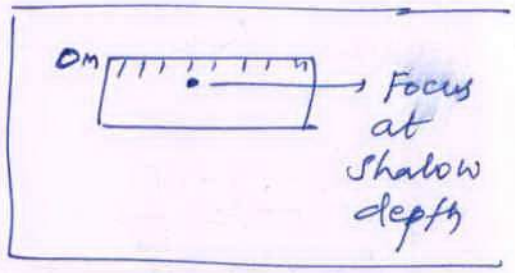
Reasons for severity of earthquake

① Seismic gap - built over 8 decades in an otherwise ~~earthquake~~ prone region.

② lack of disaster resilient infrastructure in Turkey and Syria along with high incidence of poverty → thus vulnerability was high.

③ Continued readjustment along Anatolian faults led to devastating aftershocks

④ Shallow focus nature of ~~ne~~ earthquake led to faster travel of waves and higher destruction



The example provided by Turkey must be a wake up call for Indian disaster preparedness as well especially along Hinalayan faults where a seismic gap has long been highlighted.

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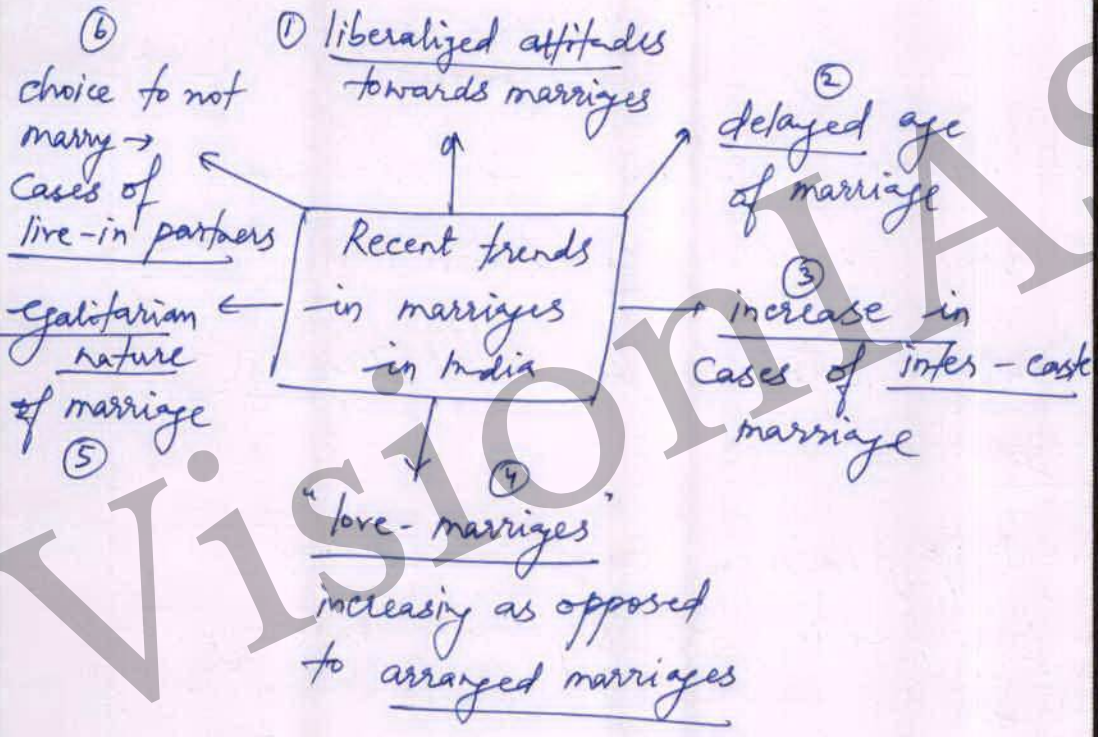
9. भारत में विवाहों की हालिया प्रवृतियों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, व्याख्या कीजिए कि समलैंगिक विवाह के कानूनी समर्थन को मौलिक महत्व का मुद्दा क्यों कहा जा रहा है।
Highlighting the recent trends in marriages in India, explain why the legal backing of same-sex marriage is being termed as an issue of seminal importance. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Marriage, despite being a traditional social institution, is witnessing various structural and functional ~~chanter~~ changes in recent times.



In this context, the demand for same sex marriage has been a significant one. While homosexuality was decriminalized in 2018 by way of Navtej Singh case, personal laws do not recognize same sex unions.

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Importance of legal backing

① will promote egalitarianism and equality in society

② recognition of rights of same sex partners such as in → inheritance
→ loans
→ medical listing
→ insurance and banking.

③ will improve social outlook towards same sex unions ⇒ develop acceptance and tolerance

④ Reduce problematic instances of lavender marriages.

⑤ Prevent psychological harm caused by being forced into sexuality non-conforming marriages

⑥ Allow same sex couples to gain adoption rights.

While the need for legal backing is seminal, sustained efforts are needed by civil society and govt. to ensure social backing is also nurtured.

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10. परस्पर संबद्ध विश्व में मानसिक कल्याण को प्रभावित करने वाले कारकों की बहुलता को ध्यान में रखते हुए, बेहतर मानसिक स्वास्थ्य देखभाल प्राप्त करने में आने वाली विभिन्न चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Considering the multiplicity of factors affecting the mental well-being in an inter-connected world, discuss the various challenges in achieving sound mental healthcare. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Mental well being refers to an absence of mental stress, anxiety, depression etc. It involves both clinical care and supportive social environment.

Multiple factors affect mental well being today

① Social media ⇒ role in developing anxiety, depression due to aspirational value created.

(eg) Instagram role in promoting anorexia in teen girls.

② Smartphone addiction ⇒ leads to sleeping disorders

③ Pornography → imbalance in dopamine releases

④ Cyber bullying, stalking → leads to psychological trauma, sexual assault and PTSDs

⑤ ~~Absence of~~ Increased globalization → leads to competition → unhealthy attitudes to success

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⑥ Stress from workplace, overcrowded living spaces, traffic (eg → Bengaluru high incidence of depression.

Various challenges in achieving sound mental healthcare

① Absence of understanding regarding mental health → leads to lack of prioritization

② Low number of and high cost of psychiatric care providers (eg: therapists)

③ Legislative lacunae → mental healthcare Act 2016 → suffers from implementational challenges

④ Lack of coverage of mental health issues in insurance etc.

⑤ Social stigma in talking about such challenges → fear of ostracization.

⑥ Research in psychological well being and pharma products is lesser

⑦ Absence of mental health from school curriculum and medical professional courses

Civil society and govt must join forces to ensure mental wellbeing.

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11. प्राचीन काल से लेकर आधुनिक काल तक भारत में प्रमुख मुद्राशास्त्र चरणों का सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। साथ ही, चर्चा कीजिए कि सिक्कों का अध्ययन किस प्रकार इतिहास को समझने में मदद करता है।

Elaborate upon the major numismatic stages in India from the ancient to modern times. Also, discuss how the study of coins helps in understanding history. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Numismatics plays significant role in reconstruction of history through study of coins. India has a long and diverse history of coinage.

Ancient period → No coins of IVC / Chacolithic period

- Coins from vedic and mahajanapada → crude → point to emergence of money economy.
- Mauryan coins → usually of silver and copper - crude → ~~some~~ of varying shapes.
- Post Mauryan → gold coins issued by Indo-Greeks for first time but expanded in purity and standardization by Kushanas → highest no. of gold coins.
- Gupta → coins called dinars → gold initially with standardization and

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depiction of motifs and information → purity reduced by 6th c AD.

Medieval period

- Delhi Sultanate → minting of coins at Delhi, Agra, Jaunpur → usually of silver alloy → experimentation with bronze coinage by Tughlaqs.
- Mughals & Sher Shah Suri → introduction of Rupee for first time → silver coins minted with high degree of standardization → introduction of annas and paisa

Modern

- Colonial govt → silver coins with issuance in the name of British monarch. → rupees, annas, paise
- modern Independent India → use of stainless steel → removal of annas → denominations of 50p, ₹1, ₹2, ₹5, ₹10 and ₹20.

Role of coins in studying history

① Direct sources of information → regarding

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name of monarch, reign, year etc.

eg → Kanishka coins highlight lineage

② Quality of coins points to state of economy.

eg → Gupta coins at its highest were purer in gold

③ Level of standardization highlights nature of polity

eg → low standardization of Sultanate coins → lesser centralization

④ Religious or cultural information

eg → languages used → Sanskrit by Shakas
→ gods worshipped – Kushana coins show Shiva
→ musical instruments → veena played by Samudragupta.

⑤ Location found → highlights trade or spread of empire eg → Roman coins in South India.

⑥ Commemorative coins help identify important events

eg → marriage of Chandragupta I to Kumaradevi

The role of coins in historiographical reconstruction is immense.

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12. दलित अधिकारों के समर्थक के रूप में प्रसिद्ध होने के बावजूद, डॉ. बी. आर. अम्बेडकर का योगदान इससे कहीं अधिक है और इसमें कई अन्य विषय भी शामिल हैं। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।
Despite being celebrated as the champion of Dalit rights, the contributions of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar went far beyond that and encompassed a wide range of issues. Elaborate. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was a prominent lawyer, politician, economist and social worker whose influence permeates various aspects of modern India.

Celebrated champion of Dalit Rights

① Founded organizations such as Bahishkrit Hitakarni Sabha.

② Agitated for equality → Mahad Satyagraha to access public tank

③ wrote seminal literature on Dalit emancipation. (eg: Annihilation of Caste)

④ participated in Simon Commission as representative of Depressed classes → later secured reservation under Poona Pact

⑤ Conversion to Buddhism → gave new identity to Dalit movement → raised social status

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⑥ Constitutional guarantees to Dalit rights → Abolition of untouchability, right to equality, NCSC etc.

However his contributions go beyond Dalit rights:

① Economic → His thesis - "Problem of the Rupee" played key role in RBI being set up → central bank of India

→ Architect of fiscal guarantees and incorporation of economic provisions in Constitution

→ supported capitalism → saw pitfalls of Communism as economic philosophy.

② Political contributions

→ As Chairman of Drafting Committee of Constituent Assembly

→ Role in defending Constitution.

→ Wrote on political democracy - "Conditions Precedent for Successful Working of Democracy in India.

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③ Cultural Contributions

- Revival of Buddhism in India
- reform of Hinduism attempted through works likes (Riddles in Hinduism etc.)

④ Legal contributions

- As first law minister → reform and codification of Hindu Personal law

Thus, BR Ambedkar's role in Indian society and polity is of immense significance.

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13. 1930-34 के सविनय अवज्ञा आंदोलन को एक अद्वितीय विशेषता, क्षेत्रीय स्थानिक पैटर्न और लामबंदी के नए तरीकों को शामिल करने के लिए जाना जाता है। स्पष्ट कीजिए।
The Civil Disobedience Movement of 1930-34 was marked by a unique character, regional spatial patterns and employment of new mobilization techniques. Elucidate. (Answer in 250 words) 15

The Civil Disobedience movement (CDM) was launched due to failure of ~~Gandhi-Irwin talks~~ to accept "11 points" forwarded by INC in context to simmering nationalist sentiments. It was launched in 1930.

Unique character of CDM

① went beyond non-cooperation to actively break laws in a peaceful manner.
eg → Salt Satyagraha.

② Non payment of taxes and calls for students to leave colleges.

③ Incorporation of social activities such as women picketing at liquour shops

④ Considerable support from business groups, women, trade unions etc.

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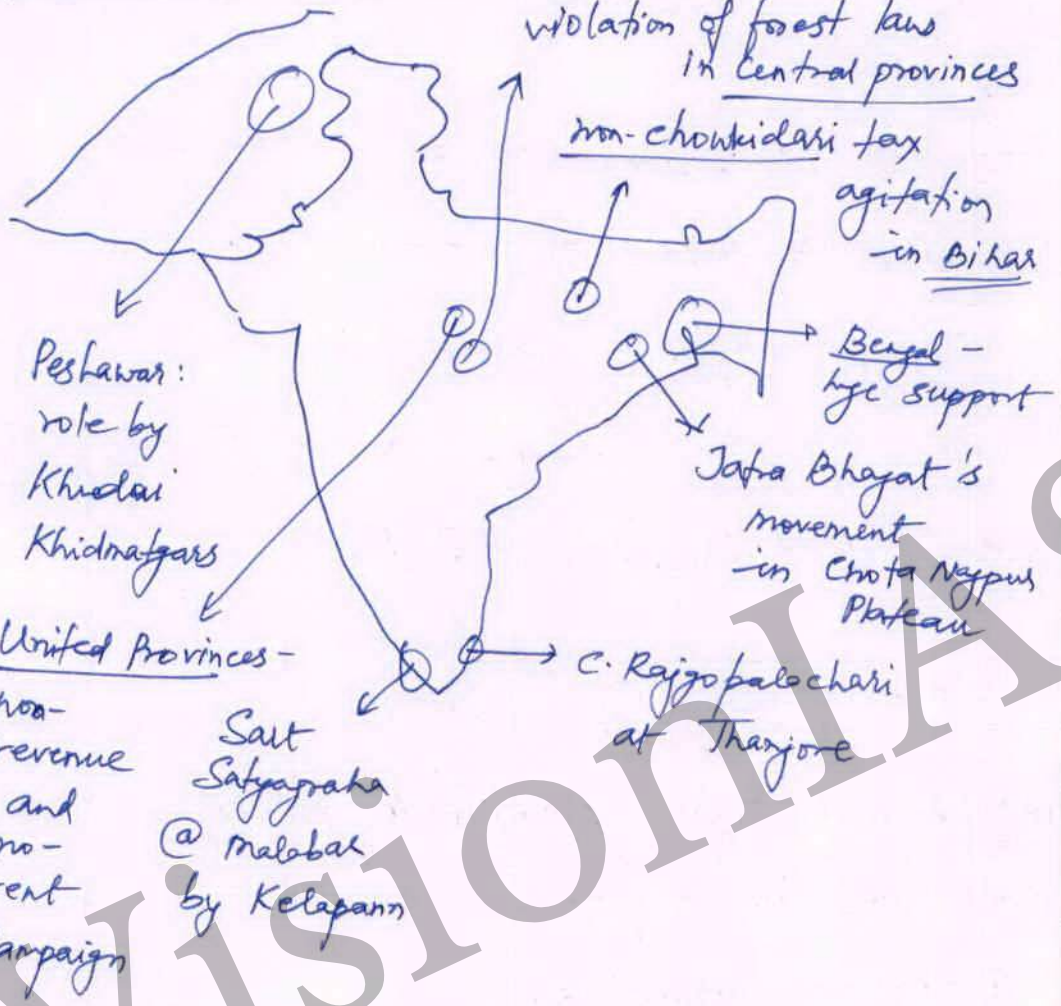
Regional spatial patterns in CDM



Unique mobilization techniques

① Participation of business groups and civil society such as trade unions → thus providing political mobilization

② Use of ideas such as prabhat feris to spread political awareness.

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③ mobilization of women through Gandhian Satyagraha → participation in huge numbers

④ children ~~used~~ ~~in~~ banded in "vahinis" to spread awareness (eg) → In Bengal

⑤ Students and urban youth participated in ~~ter~~ ~~terr~~ revolutionary terrorism.

CDM's success was however short lived and ~~the~~ efforts to revive it after disatisfaction of Round Table talks were futile. Still it lay future groundwork for success of INC in elections and led to mass mobilization in Quit India movement.

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14. भारत के तटीय क्षेत्रों में द्वीपों के डूबने की परिघटना के लिए उत्तरदायी कारणों की व्याख्या कीजिए। साथ ही, संपूर्ण राष्ट्र और विशेष रूप से द्वीपीय समुदाय के लिए इसके संभावित प्रभावों का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

Explain the underlying causes behind the phenomenon of sinking islands in India's coastal regions. Also, evaluate its possible implications for the nation as a whole and island communities in particular. (Answer in 250 words) 15

India's coastal islands face threat of submergence in recent decades prompting investigation into its causes.

Causes of sinking islands

① Sea level rise due to global warming especially impacting low lying islands on western coast.

eg → Lakshadweep atolls

② Natural processes such as tidal changes

eg → chars in Sunderbans
→ tidal bores in Khambat

③ Impact of disasters such as -

(i) cyclones and storm surges → lead to coastal flooding on east coast

(ii) tsunamis - Point Calimere submerged

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④ Erosion of islands due to wave action on eastern coast is also responsible for loss of islands

eg → along Gulf of Mannar

Possible implications for India –

① Reduced buffers against tsunamis / cyclones that these islands provided

② Economic loss due to loss of land, resources etc.

③ Will lead to forced migration increasing stress of other cities.

④ Will intensify coastal erosion as islands act to break waves

⑤ Can lead to border disputes – eg: along Bangladesh, Sri Lanka.

⑥ ports may be impacted → lead to difficulty in docking etc.

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Implications for island communities

① Forced to outmigrate to other places
② loss of livelihood, homes etc.
③ Conflicts with different ~~to~~ groups or with animals as they relocate to higher points
④ forced into poverty, loss of property
⑤ disrupts social life.

The phenomenon of sinking islands is part of global ~~cust~~ processes, and thus effective mitigation and adaption policies need to be implemented at the earliest.

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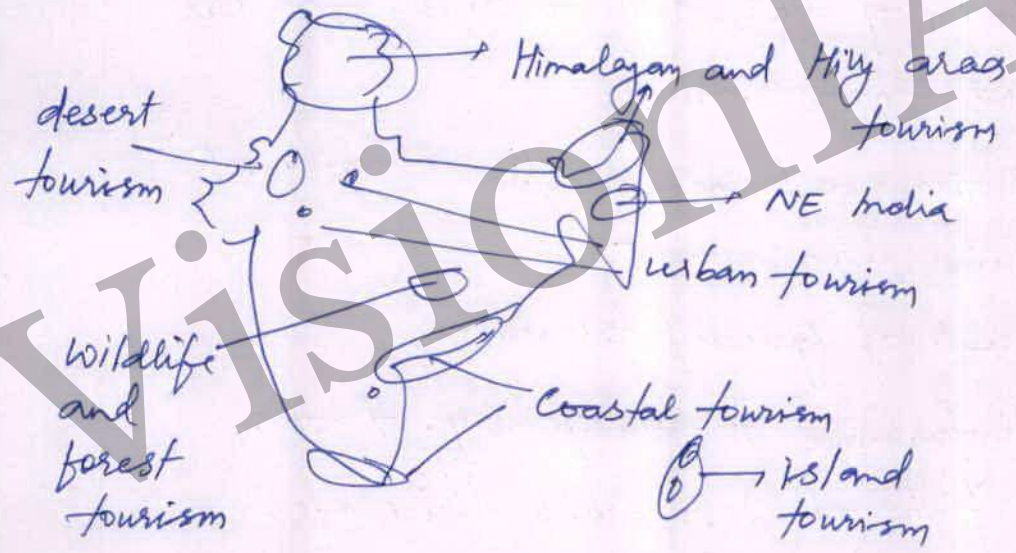
15. भारत में संधारणीय पर्यटन के संबंध में क्षेत्र-विशिष्ट बाधाओं का एक समालोचनात्मक विवरण दीजिए।
Give a critical account of region-specific constraints with regard to sustainable tourism in India. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Sustainable tourism refers to tourism that does not cause environment degradation or social disruption while supporting higher economic growth for local communities.

Regions of tourism in ~~eg~~ India



Region specific constraints

① North India, NE India, Western Ghats ⇒ hilly areas →

- threat of landslides / cloudbursts
- need for tourism infra such as

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roads, ropeways that require cutting into hills.

- difficulty in sourcing indigenous food due to lower agriculture → pollution due to packaged food, transport.
- higher tourism → higher vehicular emission → ↑ snow melting in Himalayas.

(ii) Coastal areas tourism

- dilution of CRZ rules to create facilities and infrastructure
- pollution – especially plastics → enter into marine environment
- threat of cyclones / tsunamis
- disturbance to wildlife (eg: turtles, fish etc.) in Scuba diving etc.

(iii) Islands tourism – Andaman, Lakshadweep

- damage to coral reefs
- pollution
- threat of Island Submergence
- excessive infrastructure creation
- disruption of tribal lifestyle

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(iv) Forest / wildlife tourism - In national parks, WLS etc

- leads to man animal conflict
- disruption of tribals
- clearance of forests needed to create roads, build safaris

(v) Urban tourism - Delhi, Jaipur, Chennai, Agra etc.

- increase in traffic and overcrowding
- leads to ↑ vehicular emission
- strain on water resources (eg: Shimla)

While there are various threats to sustainable tourism in various regions, planned efforts to mitigate damage, shift to renewables and fixing accountability with tourists can be implemented.

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16. पारिस्थितिक तंत्र के लिए मृदा द्वारा निभाई गई महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका को ध्यान में रखते हुए, भारत में संधारणीय मृदा प्रबंधन के महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए।
In view of the important role played by soil for the ecosystem, discuss the significance of sustainable soil management in India. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Soil is the interface between various components of the ecosystem and supports all life.

Important role played by soil

① Supporting services
- allows roots of ~~treats~~ trees to form thus supporting vegetation
- home to variety of flora, fauna (eg: rabbits)

② Provisioning services
- nutrients in soil taken up by vegetation, trees, crops
- food sources for animals / birds.
- reservoir of oxygen

③ Regulating services
- important role in biogeochemical cycles
- storage of carbon dioxide

④ Cultural services → used by humans to make products

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Despite its significance, soil is threatend by:

① erosion → due to running water, wind

② loss of fertility → loss of nutrients

③ degradation → due to contamination
eg → waterlogging

④ anthropogenic activities such as Concretization, digging, mining, deforestation etc.

Sustainable soil management → maintain fertility, → integrated soil management, → soil protection

is thus the need of the hour –

① To ensure support to agriculture
eg → Dust bowl of USA – led to famine

② to expand agriculture as population pressure increase
eg → e reclamation of

waterlogged areas around Indira Gandhi Canal

Chambal badlands

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③ to ensure carbon sequestration ⇒ as carbon dioxide leakage from soil leading to warming ⇒ climate change

④ For biodiversity conservation → loss of good bacteria (nitrosomonas etc.) due to chemical treatment.

⑤ to support livelihoods in primary sector

⑥ Neccessary for meeting various SDGs such as

SDG 1 - No Hunger

SDG 2 - No poverty

life above land (SDG - 14)

⑦ To promote organic farming that can act as sunrise sector → exporting to western nations

⑧ To check desertification → achieve goals of Land Degradation neutrality

⑨ To ensure forests survive → goal of 33% coverage in land use.

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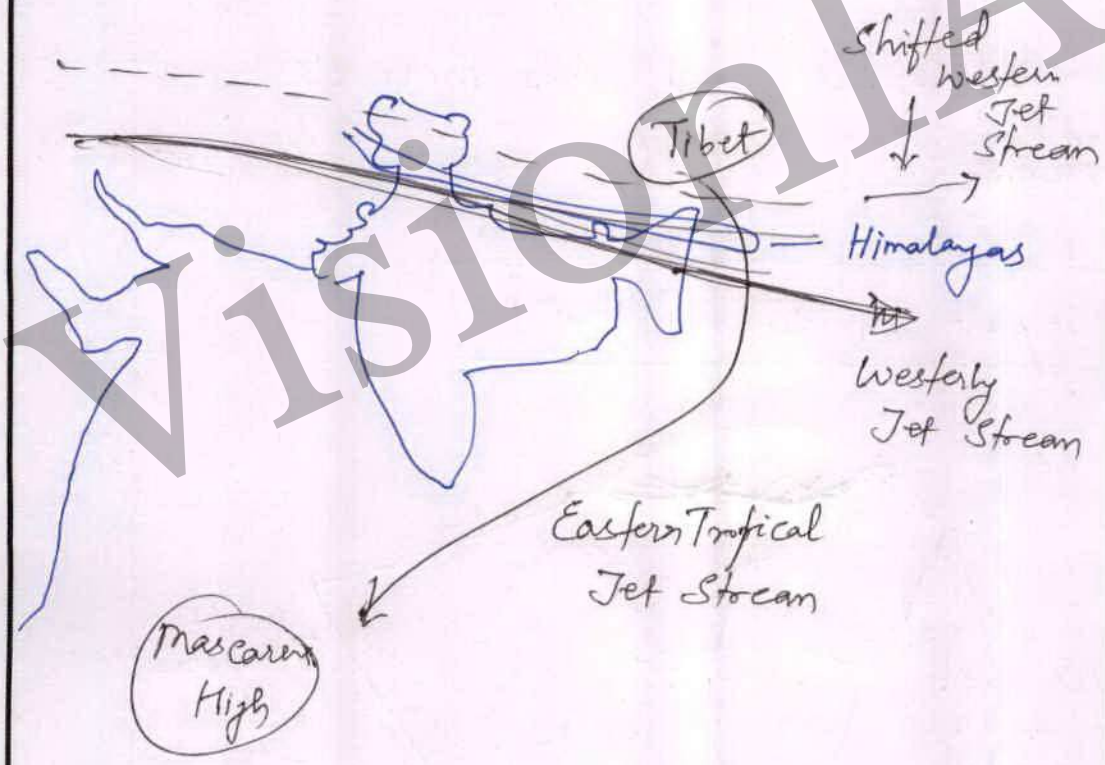
17. जेट धाराएं भारत और विश्व की जलवायु को बदलने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाती हैं। उदाहरण सहित चर्चा कीजिए।
Jet streams play an important role in altering the climate of India and the world. Discuss with examples. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Jet Streams (JS) refer to fast moving air masses in upper troposphere that flow along defined directions and play critical role in impacting climatic phenomenon.

Role of JS in altering Indian climate



- JS impacts Indian monsoon
- ① → by allowing monsoon trough to form over Indian continent.

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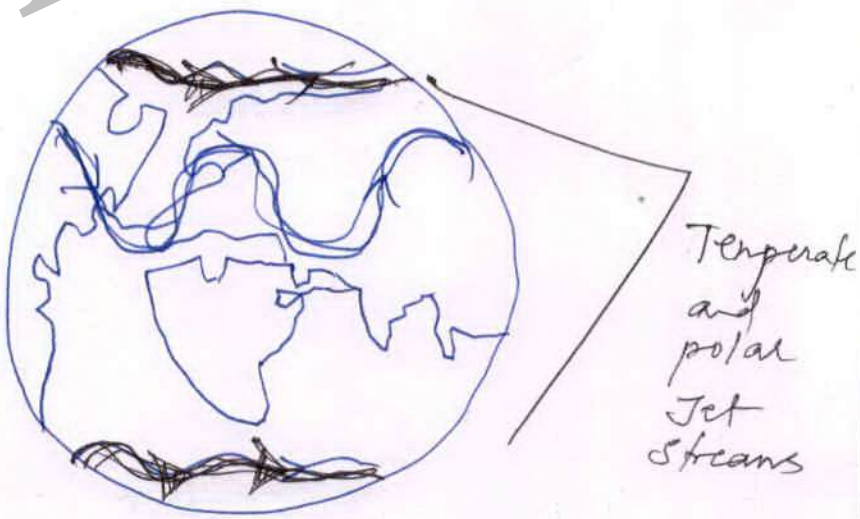
⇒ the Western Jet stream that flows south of Hinalayas in winter is shifted north due to ITCZ displacement in summer. This allows monsoon (SW) winds to advance

② Eastern Tropical Jet Stream ⇒ is a special summer JS that flows over Tibet to Indian Ocean → It helps to drive the monsoon winds and thus increases precipitation

JS impact on global climates



• Jet streams are significant in maintaining -

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- heat and pressure transfer
- Containing air masses

- For instance, the weakening of Polar JS in Northern Hemisphere due to high heat leads to phenomenon of Polar Vortex allowing temperatures to drop in US, Canada

- They ensure transfer of heat ~~from~~ in upper atmosphere → thus maintaining calm and high pressure conditions around poles.

The role of JS needs to be studied better through climate modelling in order to enhance our understanding.

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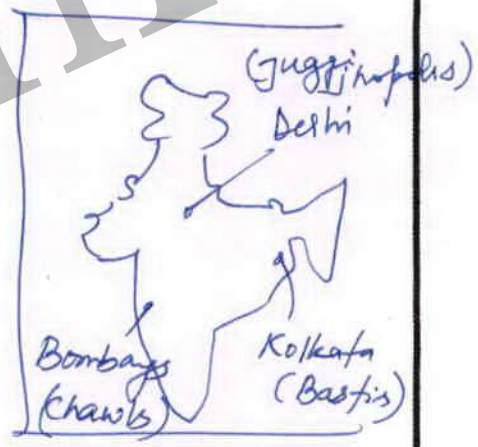
18. भारत में मलिन बस्तियों के निर्माण और इसके प्रसार के लिए उत्तरदायी कारकों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, प्रधान मंत्री आवास योजना के तहत इन-सीटू स्लम पुनर्विकास योजना में सुधार की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Highlighting the factors responsible for the formation and proliferation of slums in India, discuss the need to revamp the In-Situ Slum Redevelopment (ISSR) scheme under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban). (Answer in 250 words) 15

Slums refer to illegal and haphazard growth of urban dwelling places formed ~~due to~~ especially in developing and low income nations.

Factors responsible for slums in India

① High Rural to urban migration (close of 50% of India to be urban by 2050)



② Absence of affordable housing in urban areas near city centre

③ Lax implementation of building codes, poor monitoring of encroachments → allows spread.

④ Slums allow urban poor to band together and leverage social capital.

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⑤ high incidence of urban poverty and absence of employmet gearentee programmes

⑥ Illegal immigrants → often cannot live in any other place than slums (eg: Kolkata)

⑦ Need for large population of domestic workers by urban rich leads to slums

(eg) → Mumbai's Dharavi slum

Need to reram ISSR Scheme

① To provide empowerment to enable slum dwellers to build own homes

② To ensure affordable housing

(eg) → JJ colonies in Delhi

③ Increase pace of ISSR and

④ Improve quality of redevelopment work.

⑤ Incorporate other urban amenities such as water, gas connections etc.

⑥ To prevent leakages caused by huge corruption.

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Slums are a ~~bane in the~~ critical challenge without overcoming which, quality of life in urban areas cannot be maintained.

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19. भारत में निर्धनता और पर्यावरण क्षरण के बीच संबंध पर प्रकाश डालिए। निर्धनता में कमी करने से संबंधित प्रयास किस प्रकार संधारणीय विकास को बढ़ावा देने और पर्यावरण की सुरक्षा करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभा सकते हैं?

Bring out the relationship between poverty and environmental degradation in India. How can poverty reduction efforts play an important role in promoting sustainable development and safeguarding the environment? (Answer in 250 words) 15

The relationship between poverty and environmental degradation has been highlighted since the days of Stockholm Conference in 1972.

Poverty —forces→ Degradation
Degradation —brings→ Poverty

VICIOUS CYCLE

Poverty forcing degradation

① Shift to exploitative use of resources (eg) burning biomass / coal for heating.

② Induces farmers to overuse chemicals to increase output → loss of soil fertility

③ Directly violative practices such as poaching, tree felling and smuggling by poor.

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④ Poverty → leads to population growth → strain on limited resources → degradation.

Degradation causing poverty

① loss in farm incomes due to ~~environ~~ fertility loss

② environment degradation (eg: soil erosion) → disasters → poverty

eg → landslides + land subsidence in Uttarakhand.

③ Pollution → negative impact on health → higher OOP on health → poverty.

In this context, poverty reduction efforts such as
- employment guarentee
- DBT
- credit facility
- empowerment through { health, education

Can help in –

Ⓐ **Promoting Sustainable Development**

↳ SDG1 → No hunger – ↑er disposable incomes for food

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- reduced poverty → achieve SDG 2
- empowerment and education (esp. of girl child) → reduces inequality.
- improves quality of life and creates sustainable communities

(B) Safeguarding environment

- people can be nudged towards climate concious behaviour
- use of innovations such as stewardship of resources to tackle poverty can lead to conservation.

The recent mantra of LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) can help integrate poverty reduction with sustainable development.

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20. वैश्वीकरण और धर्म के बीच का संबंध जटिल रहा है, साथ ही दोनों के बीच की अंतःक्रिया के परिणामस्वरूप नई संभावनाएं और चुनौतियां उभर रही हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।
The relationship between globalisation and religion has been a complex one with new possibilities and challenges emerging as a result of the interaction between the two. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Globalization refers to free flow of goods, capital, people, ideas.

Complex relationship between globalization and religion -

① Globalization has led to both

Spread of religion	loss of religousity
• ability to propogate ideas (eg: Hollywood stars adopting Hinduism)	• has led to modernization → which is accompanied by scientific thinking

② often globalization and religion have been pitted against each other

(eg) → rise of conservatism in social life in response to globalization

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New opportunities from their interaction

① Religion can be reformed ⇒ by incorporating ideas

eg → banning of superstitious practices, incorporation of liberal divorce regime, removal of triple talaq.

② Allows spread of good faith based ideas → promotes tolerance

eg → role of Vivekanande's speech in popularizing ideas of Hinduism.

③ Globalization can support religious missions for good.

eg → charities donating to masques in Eid
→ donations to ~~tem~~ gurudwaras for langar.

However, new challenges have also emerged-

① Spread of fudamental ideologies easies

eg → ISIS recruitment through internet.

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② leads to phenomenon such as Islamophobia, Hindufobia etc → which can impact well being of diaspora.

Eg → Christchurch attack

③ It has led to revivalist response in developing nations where globalization is seen as westernalization.

Eg — Islamic nations opposing Christianity
— Anti-missionary activities in India

The interplay of religion and globalization needs to be channelized for greater good of all.

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INSPIRING INNOVATION

ABHYAAS MAINS

सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-II)/GENERAL STUDIES (Paper-II) (2929)

निर्धारित समय: **तीन घंटे**
Time Allowed: ***Three Hours***

अधिकतम अंक: **250**
Maximum Marks: ***250***

सामान्य अनुदेश

इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू.सी.ए.) पुस्तिका में 55+1 पृष्ठ हैं। प्रश्न-पत्र, क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका के अंत में संलग्न है, जो अलग (वियोज्य) किया जा सकता है और उम्मीदवार परीक्षा के उपरांत अपने साथ ले जा सकते हैं।

रफ कार्य के लिए, इस पुस्तिका के अंत में खाली पृष्ठ दिया गया है।

पुस्तिका प्राप्त होने पर, कृपया यह जांच कर लें कि इस क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका में कोई कमी न हो, फटा हुआ पृष्ठ न हो अथवा कोई पृष्ठ गायब न हो इत्यादि। यदि ऐसा हो, तो इसके बदले नई क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका प्राप्त कर लें।

General Instructions

This Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet contains 55+1 pages. Question Paper in detachable form is available at the end of the QCA Booklet which can be taken away by the candidate after examination.

For rough work, blank page has been provided at the end of this Booklet.

On receipt of the Booklet, please check that this QCA Booklet does not have any shortcomings, torn or missing pages etc. If, so, get it replaced with a fresh QCA Booklet.

(उम्मीदवार द्वारा भरा जाएगा/To be filled by the Candidate)

पंजीकरण सं./Registration No. : 00149946

अभ्यर्थी का नाम/Name of Student : RITWIK MEHTA

माध्यम: हिंदी/अंग्रेजी
Medium: Hindi/English

English

तारीख
Date

24/08/2024

सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-II)
GENERAL STUDIES (Paper II)

केंद्र
Centre RANCHI (036)

निरीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर
Invigilator's Signature

	महत्वपूर्ण अनुदेश **उम्मीदवारों को नीचे उल्लिखित निर्देश सावधानी से पढ़ लेने चाहिए। किसी भी निर्देश का उल्लंघन करने पर उम्मीदवारों को मिलने वाले अंकों में कटौती, उम्मीदवारी रद्द या आयोग के परवर्ती परीक्षाओं के लिए वर्जित करने इत्यादि के रूप में दण्डित किया जा सकता है।**	**Important Instructions** **Candidates should read the undermentioned instructions carefully. Violation of any of the following instructions may entail penalty in the form of deduction of marks, cancellation of candidature, debarment from further Examination of the Commission etc.**
1	(क) अपना पंजीकरण सं. एवं अन्य विवरण केवल प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका (क्यू.सी.ए.) में उम्मीदवार के लिए निर्धारित स्थान पर ही लिखें। (ख) इस पुस्तिका में अन्यत्र कहीं भी अपना नाम, पंजीकरण सं., मोबाइल नं., पता अथवा प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका (क्यू.सी.ए.) संख्या न लिखें जिससे आपकी पहचान का खुलासा हो।	(a) Write your Registration Number and other details only in the space provided in the Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet for candidates. (b) Do not disclose your identity in any manner such as, by writing your Name, Registration number, Mobile number, Address, Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet No. etc. elsewhere in the Booklet
2	अपनी प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में कहीं भी प्रश्नों के वास्तविक उत्तर के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें जैसे कि कोई कविता/दोहा, अभद्र या अपमानजनक अभिव्यक्ति इत्यादि और न ही कोई ऐसा चिन्ह/निशान बनाएं जिसका उत्तर से सम्बन्ध न हो।	Do not write in the QCA Booklet anything other than the actual answer such as couplet, obscene, abusive expression etc., nor put any sign/mark having no relevance to the answer.
3	परीक्षक को प्रत्यक्ष/अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से कोई भी प्रार्थना/धमकी भरी बातें न लिखें।	Do not make any direct/indirect appeal/threat to the examiner.
4	उत्तर अस्पष्ट अथवा गंदी लिखावट में न लिखें। इस प्रकार के उत्तर का मूल्यांकन नहीं भी किया जा सकता है।	Do not write answers in bad/illegible handwriting. Such answers may not be evaluated.
5	उत्तर स्याही में ही लिखें। उत्तर लिखने के लिए पेंसिल का उपयोग न करें, हालांकि आरेख, चित्र इत्यादि बनाने के लिए पेंसिल का उपयोग किया जा सकता है।	Write answers in ink only. Do not use pencil for writing the answers. However, pencil may be used for drawing diagrams, sketches, etc.
6	प्रवेश पत्र में उल्लेख किए गए माध्यम के अलावा अन्य किसी माध्यम में उत्तर न लिखें। अधिकृत और अनधिकृत की मिली जुली भाषा का भी उपयोग न करें।	Do not write answers in medium other than the authorized medium in the Admission Certificate. Do not use mixed language either i.e. authorize and unauthorized media together for writing answers.
7	प्रश्नों के उत्तर ठीक उसके नीचे दिए गए निर्धारित स्थान पर ही लिखें। निर्धारित स्थान के अलावा किसी अन्य स्थान पर लिखे गए उत्तर का मूल्यांकन नहीं किया जाएगा।	Write answer at the specific space (right below the question) only. Answers written elsewhere at unspecified places in the booklet shall not be evaluated.
8	यदि आप अपने किसी उत्तर को रद्द करना चाहते हैं तो उसे पेन से काट दें तथा उस पर "रद्द" लिख दें, अन्यथा उसका मूल्यांकन किया जा सकता है।	If you wish to cancel any work, draw your pen through it and write "Cancelled" across it, otherwise it may be valued.

कार्यालय के प्रयोग हेतु For Official Use	कार्यालय के प्रयोग हेतु For Official Use
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प्राप्तांक के विवरण (परीक्षक द्वारा भरा जाए)/ Marks Details (To be filled by the Examiner(s))

प्रश्न सं. Q. No.	अंक Marks		प्रश्न सं. Q. No.	अंक Marks	
1			11		
2			12		
3			13		
4			14		
5			15		
6			16		
7			17		
8			18		
9			19		
10			20		
उप-योग (A) Subtotal (A)			उप-योग (B) Subtotal (B)		
सकल योग (A+B) / GRAND TOTAL (A+B)					

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ABHYAAS MAINS

सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-II)/GENERAL STUDIES (Paper-II) (2929)

निर्धारित समय: **तीन** घंटे Time Allowed: **Three** Hours	अधिकतम अंक: **250** Maximum Marks: **250**

प्रश्न-पत्र संबंधी विशेष अनुदेश

कृपया प्रश्नों के उत्तर देने से पूर्व निम्नलिखित प्रत्येक अनुदेश को ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ें:

*कुल **बीस** प्रश्न दिए गए हैं जो **हिंदी** और **अंग्रेजी** दोनों में छपे हैं।*

सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।

प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के लिए नियत अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।

प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश-पत्र में किया गया है, और इस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू.सी.ए.) पुस्तिका के मुख-पृष्ठ पर निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिखे गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।

प्रश्न संख्या 1 से 10 तक का उत्तर 150 शब्दों में तथा प्रश्न संख्या 11 से 20 तक का उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए।

प्रश्नों में इंगित शब्द सीमा को ध्यान में रखिए।

प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गए कोई पृष्ठ अथवा पृष्ठ भाग को पूर्णतः काट दीजिए।

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions.

*There are **TWENTY** questions printed both in **HINDI** and in **ENGLISH**.*

All questions are compulsory.

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in a medium other than the authorized one.

Answers to Questions No. 1 to 10 should be in 150 words, whereas answers to Questions No. 11 to 20 should be in 250 words.

Keep the word limit indicated in the questions in mind.

Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Questions-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. **Contextual Competence**
2. **Content Competence**
3. **Language Competence**
4. **Introduction Competence**
5. **Structure - Presentation Competence**
6. **Conclusion Competence**

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. असहमति की अभिव्यक्ति संसद के कामकाज का केंद्रीय तत्व है। इसके आलोक में, भारत की संसदीय व्यवस्था में विपक्ष के नेता (LoP) की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Expression of dissent is central to the functioning of the Parliament. In light of this, discuss the role of the Leader of Opposition (LoP) in India's parliamentary system. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Leader of Opposition (LoP) who has the status of a Cabinet Minister is the leader of the party of coalition of parties on the floor of the house that sits in opposition to the govt. or treasury benches.

Role of LoO

① Criticizes deficiencies in govt. programmes / policies → provides direction to debate.

② Organizes the response of opposition to the govt. policies thus allowing united front.

③ Calls for amendments to the bills tabled by govt. as needed.

④ Provides diversity of opinion on any issue.

⑤ Ensures govt. has to justify its policy decisions

⑥ Sits on various committees including those to

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select CEC, CIC etc → brings non-partisanship

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

(7) Provides an alternative to the govt. by capturing public attention by her/his actions on the floor.

In India, while LOO has been able to perform these roles, there are certain issues -

(8) failure to create convention of "shadow cabinet" to provide political response in coordinated manner.

(9) Instances of obstructionism in the Parliament by LOO → reduces dignity of house & wastes time.

(10) Govt. is wary of providing equal role → minority opinion in selection bodies - easily overruled.

While the role of Leader of Opposition is significant in marshalling dissent against govt., there needs to be a culture of compromise & non-partisan politics to better utilize the Parliamentary spaces.

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2. न्यायिक प्रक्रियाओं में प्रौद्योगिकी का समावेशन न्याय प्रदायगी के संदर्भ में पहुंच, क्षमता और दक्षता को किस प्रकार बढ़ा सकता है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

How can the integration of technology into judicial processes enhance accessibility, capability, and efficiency in justice delivery? (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

As India enters "techade", there is need to integrate technology into judicial processes to fulfil the Basic Structure mandate of "effective access to justice" (Central Coalfields Case)

~~The National~~ The national mission to integrate technology will lead to →

① Enhanced accessibility

① availability of judicial decisions on the internet for students, lawyers, public (SCC online etc)

② ease of tracking case status - reducing complexity (e-Courts)

③ use of AI to translate decisions into mothertongue - tone accessibility.

④ Tele-law through CSCs to provide effective access to legal, paralegal professionals.

⑤ Portals to provide suggestions, grievances to courts.

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(II) Enhanced capability

(6) faster clearance of cases reducing backlog → by digitization of records, cases.

(7) judges/lawyers to have easy access to repository of case laws, precedents – reduced research time.

(8) allows common citizens to understand complex judgements – ↑ legal awareness (eg: use of chat GPT)

(9) use of e-courts to provide virtual hearings reducing need for physical presence (eg: BNS/BSA)

(III) Enhanced efficiency

(10) integration of different components of criminal justice system (e-courts → bail order → e-prisons)

(11) reduced time to file cases through online listing, disposal.

(12) reduced costs of judicial processes – economic efficiency.

The National Judicial Data Grid mission aims to provide these benefits.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

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3. भारत के उच्चतम न्यायालय ने केंद्रीकृत सत्ता एवं क्षेत्रीय स्वायत्तता को जटिल रूप से संतुलित करके भारत के संघवाद में अद्वितीय विषमता को बनाए रखा है। न्यायालय द्वारा दिए गए प्रासंगिक पूर्ववर्ती निर्णयों की सहायता से चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The Supreme Court of India has upheld unique asymmetry in India's federalism by intricately balancing centralized authority and regional autonomy. Discuss with the help of relevant case laws. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

India's federalism is unique due to its asymmetry wherein both the Centre/Union & the States do not share equal footing and there are differences within status of states as well.

Asymmetry → Horizontally: different States have different Status (eg: Article 370/371)

Asymmetry → Vertical: Centre has greater control; States have constitutionally protected powers too

SC of India has upheld this asymmetry

① In Kesavananda Bharti & SR Bommai case, SC upheld federalism as part of basic structure.

② SR Bommai principles lay down restrictions on Governor's ability to dissolve State legislatures

③ In Mohit Minerals case, SC held that despite Union having higher share of votes in GST Council, States free to form own laws.

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(4) SC prevented Centre from interfering in State list matters through Doctrine of Colourable Legislation (4) striking down of IXB provisions on Cooperatives.

(5) Recently, the case on mineral mining royalties was upheld in favor of State rights.

(6) In upholding Abrogation of A-370, SC has upheld Union's powers as well.

(7) States have been compelled to comply by directions of Centre (as per [256]).

(8) The SC has upheld India's quasi-federal centralization by allowing Centre the power to change the boundaries / names of States / UTs.

(9) In the case of Lt. Gen of Delhi vs, SC called for harmony between Union govt appointed officials & popular regional govt.

Hence, the role of SC has been effective in maintaining a unique blend of federalism in India in accordance with constitutional principles.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

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4. भारत में अनुसूचित जातियों के हितों के संरक्षण में राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जाति आयोग की प्रभावशीलता का मूल्यांकन कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
Evaluate the effectiveness of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes in safeguarding the interests of the Scheduled Castes in India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Article 338 of Constitution calls for creation of National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC) with 5 members and headed by a Chairperson.

Role of NCSC in effectively safeguarding SC interests

① Creates, presents report of status of SC to President annually.

② Acts as a civil court to investigate cases of atrocities against SC.

③ Studies the grievances of SCs and provides policy inputs to govt.

④ Provides avenue for SCs to present their grievances in a constitutional manner.

⑤ Undertakes measures for overall well being of SCs - presents representation against policies, measures not

aligned to their interests.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Effectiveness of NCSCs role

(6) Shapes media narrative & spotlights issues of SC → ↑ sensitization.

(7) various cases of SC/ST atrocities have been taken up & resolved.

However, effectiveness reduced due to –

(8) advisory nature of body. (non binding recommendations)

(9) no prosecutory powers, cannot punish or penalize.

(10) instances of committed NCSC → lack of timely action.

(11) often headed by people not well versed in issues of SCs.

(12) lack of awareness among masses regarding NCSC

(13) often seen as a post for after-retirement benefits to officials/judges.

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5. संसदीय समितियों के माध्यम से विधायिका के प्रति कार्यपालिका की जवाबदेही सुनिश्चित करना भारतीय राजनीतिक व्यवस्था की पहचान रही है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
Executive accountability to the legislature through Parliamentary Committees has been the hallmark of the Indian political system. Comment. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Parliamentary Committees are effective institutions of executive accountability. They are created from within the Parliaments & comprise of serving MPs.

Executive accountability to legislature

① Financial committees (esp. Public Accounts Committee) play significant role in investigating govt. expenditure (through CAG reports)

② Joint Ad-Hoc committees on emergent matters ensures Parliamentary scrutiny (eg: Joint Committee on Bofors).

③ Ethics committee investigates allegation of misconduct on part of MPs/Ministers

④ Priviledges committee looks into breach of Parliamentary privileges by ministers etc.

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⑤ Select & joint committees to review Contentious bills ensures govt does not hastily push through legislations

However executive accountability hindered as

⑥ Partisan Parliamentary Committees ~~(g)~~ not suggesting / debating referred bills before advocating them.

⑦ Advisory nature of various committees

⑧ Lack of media broadcast of Committee hearings (eg: in USA)

⑨ Financial committees perform post-facto or post-mortem analysis.

⑩ Role of Speaker in partisan names in ~~advocat~~ electing members to the committees.

⑪ Parliamentary Committees do not get ample time (eg: DRSCs - only 1-2 months to investigate ~~&~~ budget proposals)

⑫ Lack of expertise of the MPs.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

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6. भारत नागरिक चार्टर को किस प्रकार शासन में सुधार करने और नागरिकों को सशक्त बनाने का एक शक्तिशाली उपकरण बना सकता है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

How can India make Citizens' Charter a powerful tool for improving governance and empowering citizens? (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Citizens Charter (CC) is a written document ~~highlighting~~ highlighting the services to be expected by citizens at a public offices & details

- roles
- rights
- responsibilities
- redressal.

Steps needed to make CC powerful tool

1. Make claims against CC enforceable - penalty for non-fulfilments
2. digitize CC and ensure continuous updation
3. Spread awarness of CC - create CC in local languges.
4. incorporate grievance redressal

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mechanisms.

(5) improve work culture by judging official performance against CC.

(6) follow global best practices such as CC policies in UK.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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7. कॉर्पोरेट दानकर्ता भारत में समग्र विकास को सुविधाजनक बनाने में NGOs की किस प्रकार सहायता करते हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
How do corporate donors aid NGOs in facilitating holistic development in India? (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Corporate donors aid NGOs through furfilment of the corporate Social Responsibilities & to promote philanthropy.

① Social Impact Bonds → to improve social outcomes of corporate donations to NGOs.

② Interventions through integrated efforts. Corporate provide funding while NGOs identify gaps & provide holistic ground efforts.

③ Corporate donors can also "sponsor" commodities needed by NGOs in pursuit of social welfare projects e.g. food, clothes.

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(4) Corporate Social Responsibility can be carried out through concerted efforts.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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8. POCSO अधिनियम के गुणों के बावजूद, इसकी मौजूदा कमियों को दूर करने के लिए क्या इस पर पुनर्विचार किया जाना चाहिए? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Despite its merits, should the POCSO Act be revisited to correct the existing inadequacies? (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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POCSO act aims to protect children from sexual offences.

Merits

- fast track judgments
- legal framework to deal with crimes
- roles & responsibilities defined well
- Stringent punishments ∴ deterrent

Flaws

- low conviction due to ↑ punishment.
- Conflict with sections of BNS
- no provision for rehabilitation
- mandatory reporting not done

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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9. चीन द्वारा वैश्विक स्तर पर रणनीतिक बंदरगाहों के अधिग्रहण के अंतर्राष्ट्रीय व्यापार मार्गों एवं आर्थिक संबंधों के लिए महत्वपूर्ण निहितार्थ हैं। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

China's acquisition of strategic ports globally has significant implications for international trade routes and economic relations. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Chinese acquisition of ports.

Implications

1. China can block sea lanes of trade.
2. Supply chain constraints
3. Spying potential of these ports.
4. Increased mistrust with west.
5. Debt diplomacy through long term port acquisition.

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(6) Encircling of India - string of pearls

(7) Chances of conflict with USA over strategic regions.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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VisionIAS

10. विश्व बौद्धिक संपदा संगठन (WIPO) के मुख्य कार्य क्या हैं? बौद्धिक संपदा, आनुवंशिक संसाधनों और संबंधित पारंपरिक ज्ञान पर इसकी हालिया संधि से भारत को क्या लाभ होगा? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

What are the main functions of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)? How will its recent treaty on intellectual property, genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge benefit India? (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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11. यद्यपि केंद्रीय अन्वेषण ब्यूरो (CBI) भ्रष्टाचार से निपटने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता है, फिर भी इसकी कार्यप्रणाली की प्रायः पक्षपातपूर्ण होने तथा संघीय भावना के विरुद्ध कार्य करने के लिए आलोचना की जाती है। समुचित उदाहरणों की मदद से चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

While the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) plays a crucial role in combating corruption, its functioning is often criticized for being partisan and acting against the federal spirit. Discuss with the help of suitable examples. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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The CBI was set up with the powers of Delhi Special Police Establishment Act (DSPE) as an executive body through notification by MHA in order to investigate & prosecute instances of corruption.

Role in combating corruption

① Investigates all central services officials for corruption.

② Good track record in professional investigation, high conviction rate.

③ Unearthing of various scams & corruption links.

However, despite its effectiveness, the SC highlighted its partisan tilt by calling it a ~~cage~~ caged parrot.

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Allegations of partisan functioning

① Lack of statutory mandate – appointment of director by Centre.

② Recently, greater number of cases registered against opposition members

③ State police departments allege interference (eg: case of West Bengal)

④ Lack of powers to choose cases, investigate & prosecute on its own → require Central nod.

⑤ Some cases have not been proven in Courts (eg – 2G Scam – acquittal of accused. ∴ lower trust

⑥ Lack of established norms on the basis of which cases are selected.

⑦ Opaque organizational functioning – allegations of corruption on senior CBI officials (Director / Acting Director – 2022)

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(8) withdrawal of general consent by various states shows their lack of trust in CBI's non-partisanship. (eg: Jharkhand)

(9) CBI investigations often drag on too long - reducing confidence - ~~that~~ the process becomes punishment.

Solutions

- provide statutory status of CBI
- provide greater transparency in case selection metrics
- place it under Lokpal supervision
- reduce central Govt role in sanctioning prosecutions.

The role of CBI is necessary to act as a bulwark against corruption. However non-partisanship will increase its effectiveness.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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12. भारत में राज्यपाल प्रायः अपनी संवैधानिक भूमिका का अतिक्रमण करते हैं और आवश्यकता पड़ने पर प्रभावी ढंग से कार्य करने में विफल रहते हैं। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)
Governors in India often overstep their constitutional role and fail to act effectively when needed. Comment. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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The office of Governors is often under scrutiny in modern India due to allegations of overreach & lack of effective action. This leads to poor centre-State relations & reduces good governance.

Governors overstepping constitutional role

1. Appointing or removing ministers on own accord Eg TN case in 2023.
2. Setting up parallel bodies to State govt. Eg WB Governor set up various cells.
3. Appointment of VCs to colleges/universities without advice of State (Eg Kerala).
4. Acting as "agents of centre" - calling for President's rule without floor test Eg S.R. Bommai case.

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(5) Calling parties to form government in contravention of established norms (eg Karnataka 2018).

(6) Censoring Governor's address to the State Legislature (eg: TN case).

(7) Governor's calling for or refusing to call for legislature sessions despite advice of Council (eg Punjab

Failure to act effectively

(8) Using "pocket veto" on bills passed by legislature → prevents lawful policy making.

(9) Reserving bills for the President's assent without reason.

(10) Not holding govt. to task in case of govt. overreach.

However, there have been various instances where Governor's office has stood for

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Good governance as well. There is need to reform the structure in accordance to Sarkaria & Punchii Commission recommendations—

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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① role of CM in appointing Governor.

② Clear SOPs & guidelines on use of veto powers.

③ use of governor's office in a non-partisan manner — provision of impeachment by the legislature.

The ~~office~~ gubernatorial office should stand for statesmanship & promote cooperative ~~fera~~ federalism.

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13. भारत और संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका दोनों में ही लोकतांत्रिक सिद्धांतों का अनुपालन किया जाता है, लेकिन उनकी निर्वाचन व्यवस्था में महत्वपूर्ण भिन्नताएं विद्यमान हैं। दोनों देशों की निर्वाचन पद्धतियों में मुख्य भिन्नताएं क्या हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Both India and the USA adhere to democratic principles but their electoral systems exhibit significant differences. What are the key differences in electoral practices between the two countries? (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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India and USA despite being democracies with strong electoral traditions differ markedly in their electoral process due to the very nature of polity - presidential vs parliamentary.

Key differences in electoral practices

India	USA
① independent election Commission through Constitution	① no federal level election commission.
② indirect elections through Parliament for PM	② indirect elections through electoral college for President.
③ separate Delimitation Commission - non political process	③ political territorial division - instances of gerrymandering.

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(4) lesser intra party democracy - not election of representatives.	(4) higher intra party democracy - primaries held to nominate representatives.
(5) for the upper house (RS), no direct elections - no. of seats vary by state.	(5) Fixed number of seats for each state in Senate (2).
(6) no convention of "debate" between the representatives.	(6) Conventional Presidential debates.
(7) electoral schedule not fixed - decided by EC.	(7) electoral schedule rigid - results by 8 November.
(8) PM can be elected by Parliament even from outside the Parliament	(8) President must be elected from the list of representatives + no role of legislature (Congress ✓)
(8)	

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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(9) Whoever wins majority in Parliament gets to form govt.

(9) Majority in Congress is not ~~a guarantor of~~ guarantor of Presidential victory

eg 2008 - Democratic President but Republican Congress.

(10) Use of technology in voting - EVMs

(10) use of ballot papers.

Thus, the electoral practices in both nations vary on account of the overall objectives, political system and development of conventions.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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14. आप इस दृष्टिकोण से किस हद तक सहमत हैं कि राष्ट्रीय हरित अधिकरण (NGT) ने भारत में पर्यावरणीय न्याय सुनिश्चित करने के अपने उद्देश्य की पूर्ति की है? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

How far do you agree with the view that the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has met its objective of ensuring environmental justice in India? (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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NGT established as a statutory body in 2010 is dedicated to ensuring environmental jurisprudence is seen in all ~~pro~~ policies & programmes in pursuit of (A-21) of Constitution.

NGT - met its objectives

① mainstreaming of principles such as
- polluter pay
- precautionary principle
- sustainability

② effective in ensuring environmental laws (eg EPA 1986; BD Act 2002; Water Act etc) are upheld in letter & spirit.

③ prevention of illegal projects being carried out in contravention of laws (eg various developmental projects stopped

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(4) ensuring compensation for victims of environment harm done through projects that damage ecosystem.

(5) ensuring in-depth, high quality EIA being conducted.

(6) Significant cases developed due to NGT that inform environmental jurisprudence today.

However it is not always effective

(7) Failure to prevent degradation of various ecosystems as seen by ~~various~~ reports. such as (IBPES)

(8) Wildlife Act kept outside purview of NGT.

(9) Many cases dismissed on frivolous grounds in early hearings.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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(10) Failure to balance environmental justice with economic development (eg: NITI Aayog study claimed ₹6000 cr loss to exchequer due to cases such as Mopa Airport, Goa).

(11) NGT verdicts often overturned in higher judiciary due to patent errors in judicial processes. (burden on judicial system).

However NGTs relative success especially in reducing waste dumping etc needs to be built upon with reforms like.

(1) inclusion of Wildlife Act under NGT

(2) increasing number of benches

(3) inclusion of environmental science experts on NGT panels.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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15. यद्यपि पंचायती राज संस्थाएं (PRIs) प्रतिस्पर्धी राजनीति के लिए एक मंच बन गई हैं, किंतु इनका नियोजन एवं सेवा वितरण की एजेंसी के रूप में उद्भव नहीं हुआ है। क्यों? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Though Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) have become a platform for competitive politics, they have not emerged as an agency of planning and service delivery. Why? (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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PRI institutions that were constitutionalized by the 73rd CAA to operationalize Gandhian vision of Gram Swaraj have today been criticized for not emerging as a true federal level of govt.

~~Rea~~ Evidences of failure

- lack of effective resource mobilization
- reliance on state, centre for policy inputs
- poor economic development in rural economy.

Reasons

① Lack of funds reducing service delivery potential → reluctance to tax

② Tied nature of funds & grants provided ∴ reduced initiative in planning

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resource allocation

③ Absence of effective functionaries to fulfil mandate of gram panchayats.

④ Block & district level officials ~~reduce~~ do not give due respect to PRI bodies.

⑤ Lack of skills to undertake long term planning, accountify and align it with service delivery.

⑥ Lack of data & other policy tools with PRI ~~un~~ bodies to undertake policy planning.

⑦ Functions not transferred to the PRI as envisaged by 11th Schedule

⑧ Political contestation in PRI increased considerably reducing the role of gram sabha & increasing that of political parties & their needs.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Solutions

① Resolve the issues of

funds

* tax rights increased
* non-tied FC grants

functions

* increase relevant powers of PRI to allows integration of different policy domains.

functionaries

* Create separate cadre of PRI officials with requisite training.

② Innovative measures such as Panchayat Citizen charters to enhance public service delivery.

③ integration of e-offices for PRI to improve governance outcomes.

④ align PRI planning with district level planning.

⑤ make DM responsible to zila Panchayats to ensure accountability.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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16. ई-गवर्नेंस में अंतरसंचालनीयता (इंटरऑपरेबिलिटी) से आप क्या समझते हैं? विभिन्न ई-गवर्नेंस प्रणालियों की अंतरसंचालनीयता एवं एकीकरण सुनिश्चित करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

What do you understand by interoperability in e-governance? What steps have been taken by the government to ensure interoperability and integration of various e-governance systems? (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Interoperability refers to the use of different systems, departments, functions in a way that they communicate, interact with each other & not in silos.

Eg

Land Records fetched → transfer to loan disbursing public sector banks to (farmer).

KYC data sent ← Depositories/UIDAI

verification

automatic money transfer

Importance of interoperability

- ensures seamless flow of information
- prevents bottlenecks in digitization
- increased efficiency of systems
- reduces costs of data migration from one department to another.

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Steps taken to ensure interoperability

① creation of India Stack as the underlying system for all of govt. functions — basis is JAM trinity.

② Holistic digitization - end to end instead of specific processes.

③ creation of umbrella bodies to oversee digitization

④ creation of in-house capability through NIC to digitize e-governance tools.

⑤ adoption of 5G technology, creation of indigenous systems to ensure faster indigenization of entire e-governance.

⑥ Creation of personal data repositories such as Digilocker that can be accessed by all.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Interoperability is necessary especialy as critical public functions get digitized.

(B) [e-courts — e-prisons] interoperability will ensure effective functioning of criminal justice system.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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17. जब भारत में महिलाओं के यौन और प्रजनन स्वास्थ्य की बात आती है, तब अधिकार-आधारित विमर्श को न केवल सामाजिक मानदंडों द्वारा बल्कि कानूनी मानदंडों द्वारा भी बड़े पैमाने पर नजरअंदाज किया गया है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

When it comes to sexual and reproductive health of women in India, rights-based discourse has largely been bypassed not just by the societal norms but also by the legal norms. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Women rights in India in domains of sexual & reproductive health have been criticized for overlooking issues of → question of choice.

- menstrual concerns
- childhood & pregnancy concerns
- maternal health concerns

Rights based discourse on women's heath refers to:

① providing services to women as a matter of "right".

② legislating progressive realization of access to such services.

- right to ~~leave~~ menstrual leaves
- right to abort
- right to menstrual hygiene products
- right to affordable healthcare

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Missing in social discourse

① Sexual, reproductive issues often remains taboo ~~sty~~ subjects.

② Unscientific perspectives on sexual/reproductive health (belief in purity-pollution)

③ Women's health not prioritized in drug development

④ However it is not just limited to social norms.

Discourse bypassed in legal norms

① lack of proactive legislations to secure sexual & reproductive health services

Eg Abortion in India not given as a "right" but as an exception to shield medical practitioners.

② Lack of policies for reducing taxation on

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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entire supply chain of feminine hygiene products to cut ~~of~~ prices.

③ Lack of rights based legislation to access:

↳ ~~*~~ doctors, medical institutions

↳ ~~*~~ essential medicines.

However the ~~legis~~ recent advancements made in mainstreaming of maternity leaves etc ~~has~~ is a good first step.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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18. पिछले कुछ वर्षों में भारत टीकाकरण कवरेज को बढ़ाने में कितना प्रभावी रहा है? देश में टीकाकरण के प्रयासों को प्रभावित करने वाली चुनौतियां कौन-सी हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

How effective has India been in enhancing immunization coverage over the years? What challenges continue to affect immunization efforts in the country? (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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India aims to ensure universal immunization for kids against significant diseases (through Indradhanush) & creating logistical capacity to provide immunization across population during pandemics/epidemics.

Effectiveness in achieving

① 100% eradication of polio due to immunization

② greater awareness of immunization programme among masses.

③ expansion of number of diseases in immunization programme

However, certain lacunae

① Diseases such as leprosy etc still not 100% eradicated.

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② lack of proper immunization records stored in digital format.

③ adult immunization (esp. elderly) for herpes/shingles not prioritized.

④ some significant diseases neglected in universal immunization programme.

Challenges that continue

① Poor awareness regarding benefits of immunization at all stages of life.

② vaccine hesitancy due to lack of trust

③ vaccines not developed for dengue malaria that can effectively eradicate them.

④ lack of infastructure to transport, store vials in safe, scientific manner.

⑤ Public healthcare centres do not often promote immunization policies.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Solutions

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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- international collaboration
- capacity building
- R&D in vaccine development
- TRIPS waivers for vaccine technology
- infrastructure (such as refrigerated vans etc) to increase shelf life of vaccines.

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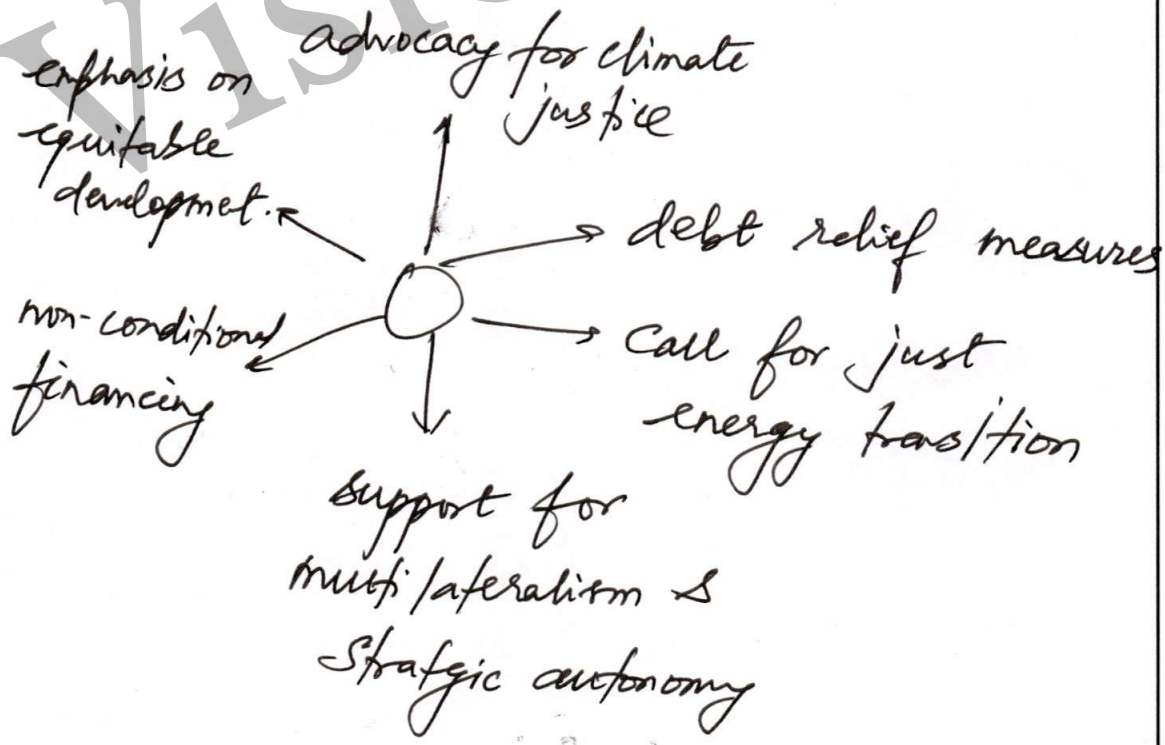
19. भारत ने G20 की अपनी अध्यक्षता का उपयोग वैश्विक दक्षिण की आवाज़ को केंद्रीय मंच पर लाने के लिए किया है। अफ्रीका के विशेष संदर्भ के साथ चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)
India used its Presidency of the G20 to bring the voice of the Global South to the centre stage. Discuss with special reference to Africa. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

India's presidency of G20 was marked by its expansion as African Union was added to the grouping. This was in line with India's vision to make the voice of Global South be heard.

India's efforts in Global South Leadership

(A)



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India's efforts have significance for Africa as →

① calls for peace, multilateralism as Africa suffers from huge commodity prices due to Ukraine war.

② support for climate justice which is impacting Sahel region the worst.

③ debt relief leadership as these nations under Chinese debt trap

④ Energy leadership - through International Solar Alliance - huge potential in Africa; Global Biofuels Alliance

⑤ called out conditional loans by western bodies such as IMF for impacting sovereignity of nations.

⑥ supported African Union's presence among

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

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the most important global economies.

However, India's leadership of Global South is also being contested by China which seeks to provide alternative platforms.

India needs to step up practical efforts to deepen meaningful relationship with Africa.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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20. पिछले दशक में भारत और UAE के बीच संबंधों में विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में उल्लेखनीय विस्तार हुआ है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

India's relationship with the UAE has witnessed a remarkable expansion across various domains in the last decade. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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India-UAE relationship has expanded as a strategic partnership driven by convergences in

- economic realities
- energy leadership
- military & scientific cooperation.

Expansion of India-UAE relations

1. Space sector → as India helped UAE's space programme.
2. Economic → signing of FTA leading to higher trade.
3. Oil trade → as India remains significant importer of crude oil.
4. Investments → as UAE firms, funds & royalty make investments in Indian businesses, SWF etc.

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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⑤ Strategic → as convergence seen on platforms such as G20 etc.; Middle East QUAD

⑥ Military → as India - UAE have worked together on transfer of technology, etc.

⑦ Cultural & P2P → Indian diaspora thriving in UAE.

* Creation of overseas IIT
* Creation of Hindu temple.

} in UAE.

⑧ Research - India UAE have collaborated on scientific transfers.

⑨ Energy → as both seek to provide leadership to energy transition seen in their participation in ISA & IRENA.

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However, India - UAE relations remain restricted on certain fronts due to

Challenges of

- Pakistan & Kashmir
- oil trade - India's relative deficit
- relations with Iran & Israel.

There is need to continue expansion of India - UAE relation in pursuit of enlightened self interest.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-III)/GENERAL STUDIES (Paper-III) (2930)

निर्धारित समय: **तीन घंटे**
Time Allowed: ***Three Hours***

अधिकतम अंक: **250**
Maximum Marks: ***250***

सामान्य अनुदेश

इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू.सी.ए.) पुस्तिका में 55+1 पृष्ठ हैं। प्रश्न-पत्र, क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका के अंत में संलग्न है, जो अलग (वियोज्य) किया जा सकता है और उम्मीदवार परीक्षा के उपरांत अपने साथ ले जा सकते हैं।

रफ कार्य के लिए, इस पुस्तिका के अंत में खाली पृष्ठ दिया गया है।

पुस्तिका प्राप्त होने पर, कृपया यह जांच कर लें कि इस क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका में कोई कमी न हो, फटा हुआ पृष्ठ न हो अथवा कोई पृष्ठ गायब न हो इत्यादि। यदि ऐसा हो, तो इसके बदले नई क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका प्राप्त कर लें।

General Instructions

This Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet contains 55+1 pages. Question Paper in detachable form is available at the end of the QCA Booklet which can be taken away by the candidate after examination.

For rough work, blank page has been provided at the end of this Booklet.

On receipt of the Booklet, please check that this QCA Booklet does not have any shortcomings, torn or missing pages etc. If, so, get it replaced with a fresh QCA Booklet.

(उम्मीदवार द्वारा भरा जाएगा/To be filled by the Candidate)

पंजीकरण सं./Registration No. : 00149946

अभ्यर्थी का नाम/Name of Student : RITWIK MEHTA

माध्यम: हिंदी/अंग्रेजी
Medium: Hindi/English

English

तारीख
Date

25/08/2024

सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-III)
GENERAL STUDIES (Paper III)

केंद्र
Centre RANCHI (036)

निरीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर
Invigilator's Signature

	महत्वपूर्ण अनुदेश **उम्मीदवारों को नीचे उल्लिखित निर्देश सावधानी से पढ़ लेने चाहिए। किसी भी निर्देश का उल्लंघन करने पर उम्मीदवारों को मिलने वाले अंकों में कटौती, उम्मीदवारी रद्द या आयोग के परवर्ती परीक्षाओं के लिए वर्जित करने इत्यादि के रूप में दण्डित किया जा सकता है।**	**Important Instructions** **Candidates should read the undermentioned instructions carefully. Violation of any of the following instructions may entail penalty in the form of deduction of marks, cancellation of candidature, debarment from further Examination of the Commission etc.**
1	(क) अपना पंजीकरण सं. एवं अन्य विवरण केवल प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका (क्यू.सी.ए.) में उम्मीदवार के लिए निर्धारित स्थान पर ही लिखें। (ख) इस पुस्तिका में अन्यत्र कहीं भी अपना नाम, पंजीकरण सं., मोबाइल नं., पता अथवा प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका (क्यू.सी.ए.) संख्या न लिखें जिससे आपकी पहचान का खुलासा हो।	(a) Write your Registration Number and other details only in the space provided in the Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet for candidates. (b) Do not disclose your identity in any manner such as, by writing your Name, Registration number, Mobile number, Address, Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet No. etc. elsewhere in the Booklet
2	अपनी प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में कहीं भी प्रश्नों के वास्तविक उत्तर के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें जैसे कि कोई कविता/दोहा, अभद्र या अपमानजनक अभिव्यक्ति इत्यादि और न ही कोई ऐसा चिन्ह/निशान बनाएं जिसका उत्तर से सम्बन्ध न हो।	Do not write in the QCA Booklet anything other than the actual answer such as couplet, obscene, abusive expression etc., nor put any sign/mark having no relevance to the answer.
3	परीक्षक को प्रत्यक्ष/अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से कोई भी प्रार्थना/धमकी भरी बातें न लिखें।	Do not make any direct/indirect appeal/threat to the examiner.
4	उत्तर अस्पष्ट अथवा गंदी लिखावट में न लिखें। इस प्रकार के उत्तर का मूल्यांकन नहीं भी किया जा सकता है।	Do not write answers in bad/illegible handwriting. Such answers may not be evaluated.
5	उत्तर स्याही में ही लिखें। उत्तर लिखने के लिए पेंसिल का उपयोग न करें, हालांकि आरेख, चित्र इत्यादि बनाने के लिए पेंसिल का उपयोग किया जा सकता है।	Write answers in ink only. Do not use pencil for writing the answers. However, pencil may be used for drawing diagrams, sketches, etc.
6	प्रवेश पत्र में उल्लेख किए गए माध्यम के अलावा अन्य किसी माध्यम में उत्तर न लिखें। अधिकृत और अनधिकृत की मिली जुली भाषा का भी उपयोग न करें।	Do not write answers in medium other than the authorized medium in the Admission Certificate. Do not use mixed language either i.e. authorize and unauthorized media together for writing answers.
7	प्रश्नों के उत्तर ठीक उसके नीचे दिए गए निर्धारित स्थान पर ही लिखें। निर्धारित स्थान के अलावा किसी अन्य स्थान पर लिखे गए उत्तर का मूल्यांकन नहीं किया जाएगा।	Write answer at the specific space (right below the question) only. Answers written elsewhere at unspecified places in the booklet shall not be evaluated.
8	यदि आप अपने किसी उत्तर को रद्द करना चाहते हैं तो उसे पेन से काट दें तथा उस पर "रद्द" लिख दें, अन्यथा उसका मूल्यांकन किया जा सकता है।	If you wish to cancel any work, draw your pen through it and write "Cancelled" across it, otherwise it may be valued.

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परीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर Signature of Examiner(s)	

प्राप्तांक के विवरण (परीक्षक द्वारा भरा जाए)/ Marks Details (To be filled by the Examiner(s))

प्रश्न सं. Q. No.	अंक Marks		प्रश्न सं. Q. No.	अंक Marks	
1			11		
2			12		
3			13		
4			14		
5			15		
6			16		
7			17		
8			18		
9			19		
10			20		
उप-योग (A) Subtotal (A)			उप-योग (B) Subtotal (B)		
सकल योग (A+B) / GRAND TOTAL (A+B)					

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सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-III)/GENERAL STUDIES (Paper-III) (2930)

निर्धारित समय: **तीन** घंटे Time Allowed: **Three** Hours	अधिकतम अंक: **250** Maximum Marks: **250**

प्रश्न-पत्र संबंधी विशेष अनुदेश

कृपया प्रश्नों के उत्तर देने से पूर्व निम्नलिखित प्रत्येक अनुदेश को ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ें:

*कुल **बीस** प्रश्न दिए गए हैं जो **हिंदी** और **अंग्रेजी** दोनों में छपे हैं।*

सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।

प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के लिए नियत अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।

प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश-पत्र में किया गया है, और इस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू.सी.ए.) पुस्तिका के मुख-पृष्ठ पर निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिखे गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।

प्रश्न संख्या 1 से 10 तक का उत्तर 150 शब्दों में तथा प्रश्न संख्या 11 से 20 तक का उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए।

प्रश्नों में इंगित शब्द सीमा को ध्यान में रखिए।

प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गए कोई पृष्ठ अथवा पृष्ठ भाग को पूर्णतः काट दीजिए।

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions.

*There are **TWENTY** questions printed both in **HINDI** and in **ENGLISH**.*

All questions are compulsory.

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in a medium other than the authorized one.

Answers to Questions No. 1 to 10 should be in 150 words, whereas answers to Questions No. 11 to 20 should be in 250 words.

Keep the word limit indicated in the questions in mind.

Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Questions-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग का तीव्र विकास किस प्रकार भारत में खाद्य सुरक्षा संबंधी चुनौतियां उत्पन्न कर रहा है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
How is the rapid growth of the food processing industry leading to food safety challenges in India? (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

The Food Processing sector has emerged as a Sunrise sector in Indian economy growing at high CAGR.

Rapid growth → increase in size of industry
→ Support by govt in form of incentives, Mega Food Park Scheme etc
→ R&D in foodprocessing
→ growth of private sector startups in this field

However, this growth challenges food safety

1. Decline in sanitary, phytosanitary standards maintainance in exports.
2. Cases of misuse of chemicals in food outputs eg Spices from India - ↑ ethylene content
3. Quality of raw material suspect to being rotten, low in nutrition - as demand rises.
4. Quality of output impacted by lack of

adequate monitoring & quality control measures

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

(5) Poor logistics & warehousing → chances of contamination in supply chain itself

(6) Impact on food security as higher demand for → horticulture, cash crops, food processing sector crops.

(7) Food safety also impacted due to lower monitoring measures at customs checkpoints → imports of Raw material - can bring diseases, invasive species

Case Study
USA has a dedicated bio-security unit at all airports, ports

Measures needed

(8) Improve legislation to tackle issue of quality

(9) Set up independent Food quality control authority or provide such powers to FSSAI.

(10) Focus on nutritional value maintainance of such items.

(11) Reduce overprocessed — transfats / sugary — food stuffs.

The Eat Right campaign needs to be broadened to tackle challenges.

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2. भारत की सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के अंतर्गत उचित मूल्य की दुकान (FPS) का प्रारंभ एक विकासशील प्रक्रिया है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
Under the Public Distribution System of India, the Fair Price Shop (FPS) transformation is an evolving process. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

The Fair Price Shop (FPS) acts as the nodal interface between the Public Distribution System and the citizens / beneficiaries as all foodstuffs disbursed through them.

Functions of FPS

1. Stocking adequate quantity of foodgrains
2. verification of beneficiaries & maintaining records & distributing food as per NFSA, AAY guidelines
3. act as nodal distribution points for other essential items during crisis.
4. act as nodal distribution points for other essential items during crisis.

Evolution of FPS – an ~~evol~~ ongoing transformation

1. Earlier, brick & mortar FPS with limited geographical coverge → problem of accessibility
2. No. of FPS increased to granular levels → ↑ in spatial coverge.
3. Issue of inclusion - exclusion still remained

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due to poor digitization.

(4) Digitized FPS envisioned leading to reduced corruption, siphoning & exclusion.

(5) Localized demand fulfilled but lack of service to migrants → hence One Nation, One Ration Card envisioned.

(6) India Stack DPI integrated by linking ONORC with Aadhar/~~UPI~~ Cards.

(7) Payments system digitized through integration of UPI

(8) Despite these progress, certain lacuna remain that can be tackled through further transformation →

(8) fake beneficiaries → biometric integration.

(9) records not maintained → blockchain technology

(10) Quality decline due to poor management - long storage → incorporate AI based warehouse management.

FPS transformation is neccessary to ~~fulf~~ fulfil SDG 2 of "No Hunger".

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

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3. भारत में एग्रीटेक स्टार्ट-अप्स किसानों की कृषि उत्पादकता एवं बाजार पहुंच बढ़ाने में किस प्रकार मदद कर रहे हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

How are agri-tech startups in India helping farmers in enhancing farm productivity and market access? (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Agri tech startups help to reduce cost of existing technological solutions & make available further innovations to farmers in India.

Role of agri tech startups in farm productivity

① Mechanization of farm equipments → handheld devices → ↓ drudgery & ↑ productivity.

② Innovative inputs → such as nano-urea & nano-fertilizers → ↓ cost & ↑ use-efficiency.

③ Development of ~~for~~ HYV crops & improved seed quality.

④ Irrigation innovation → to reduce cost of drawing & using water.

⑤ Improved agronomic techniques developed that can be provided through extension services

⑥ Threshers, harvesters & combines that reduces need for farm labor &

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improves time taken for preparing field for next crop.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Role in improving market access

(7) "Uber for farmers" - provision of farm to market transport services.

(8) Digitization of farmer/producer organizations to use e-commerce for sales.

(9) Improved Refrigeration facilities (eg: refrigerated trucks) to enhance spatial coverage of farm produce

(10) Creation of platforms to link buyers & producers.

(11) Farm Gate processing technologies to promote processing & boost exports to foreign markets.

(12) Digital technologies & solutions to APMC mandis to improve marketing.

Agri-tech startups need to be supported through tax incentives, VGF measures etc to realize full potential.

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4. भारत में भूमि सुधारों के प्रभावी कार्यान्वयन में भूमि अभिलेखों के डिजिटलीकरण की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
Discuss the role of digitization of land records in the effective implementation of land reforms in India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Digitisation of land records is one of the core aims of Land Reforms in India. It refers to conversion of cadestral maps from physical to digital formats. It is conducted through National Land Records Modernization Programme.

Role in effective land reforms

① Improves land leasing & owner-tenant relations as ownership can be clearly established.

② Mapping of land holdings → provides data about land ownership beyond ceiling.

③ Promotion of contract farming as land parcels can be identified by parties without ambiguity.

④ Improved farm output as it will allow farmers to place land as collateral for loans.

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(5) Reduced conflict over land → ↓ litigation
Eg Success of ULIP ; Bhoomi etc.

(6) Will allow mapping of land records & with soil health data → agronomic measures can be made scientific.

(7) Promote cooperative farming as land parcels can be tilled together – overcome fragmentation issue.

(8) Ushers in era of conclusive land titling from presumptive titling.

(9) Improve digitization & farm mechanization
Eg use of GIS technology possible for monitoring land quality, determine inputs etc

(10) Will help complete the aim of land to the tiller if land records comprehensively mapped.

How to achieve
- assigning unique numbers to land parcels
- creating blockchain database for land records.
- use of AI, robotics in land records digitization.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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VisionIAS

5. भारत को अपने जनसांख्यिकीय लाभांश का पूर्ण उपयोग करने और आर्थिक विकास में तेजी लाने के लिए एक विनिर्माण-केंद्रित विकास मॉडल को अपनाने की आवश्यकता है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

To fully exploit its demographic dividend and accelerate economic growth, India needs to adopt a manufacturing-led growth model. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

India's manufacturing growth is stagnant leading to huge underemployment in agricultural sector & ~~co~~ unemployment in economy. This acts as a barrier to achieving $7 trillion economy by 2030.

Manufacturing sector
- ~ 27% of GDP
- Stagnant rate of growth
- Capital intensive sector domination.
- MSME dominate.

Manufacturing led growth model can resolve various issues as -

① Exploit demographic dividend
- (1.1) currently 49% of ~~demog~~ employment in agri sector (despite ~18% GDP)
- (1.2) improve incomes especially of youth in the ~~co~~ collar professions (e.g. food processing.

(1.3) Labor intensive manufacturing sectors can reduce unemployment crisis - provide "good jobs"

Case Study
Bangladesh - ↑growth due to textile sector - labor intensive

(1.4) Skilled demography can be absorbed in high end manufacturing (eg) semiconductors ∴ Reduce brain drain.

(II) Accelerate economic growth

(2.1) Manufacturing growth → ↑ merchandise exports ∴ export led growth model.

(2.2) ↑ manufacturing → ↓ cost of goods → ↑ disposable incomes → ↑ investments.

(2.3) Sunrise sectors such as textiles, food processing etc can provide market for agri & primary sector outputs - ↑ linkages in economy.

(2.4) It will improve R&D investments (currently stagnant at 0.64% of GDP)

Manufacturing growth needs to balance interests of productivity (capital intensiveness) & employment (labor intensiveness).

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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6. जलवायु परिवर्तन के परिणामस्वरूप बढ़ते प्राकृतिक खतरों से निपटने के लिए भारतीय तटीय समुदायों की प्रत्यास्थता को किस प्रकार मजबूत किया जा सकता है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

How can the resilience of Indian coastal communities be strengthened to tackle the growing natural hazards resulting from climate change? (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Indian coastline of 7516 km is vulnerable to various hazards

- cyclones & storm surges
- tsunamis
- tidal bores
- saline ingress
- coastal flooding
- subsidence of land
- man made accidents

These hazards have amplified due to climate change

① ↑ sea surface temperatures = ↑ cyclones

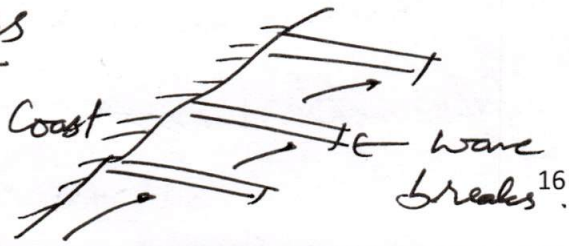
② ↑ humidity = ↑ coastal rain & flooding

Strengthening coastal resilience

① Infrastructure strengthening → to reduce vulnerability (use of strong, durable materials)

② Shelter belts in the form of { mangroves, sea grasses.

③ Hard engineering solutions → creation of sea walls & storm/wave breakers



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(4) Creation of hazard based shelter ~~to~~ infra such as those in Odisha for cyclones.

(5) Insurance facility to all in order to increase economic resilience.

(6) Regular updation of community based Disaster response plans to enhance public capacity

(7) Sustainable principles to be incorporated in lifestyle (as said by Sendai Framework)

(8) Early warning systems to report & disseminate risks (eg: Indian Ocean Tsunami Early warning systems)

(9) Improving livelihoods through Coastal development programmes to increase capability eg boost tourism, fishing.

(10) Coastal Regulation Zones (CRZ) to be adhered to in order to reduce vulnerability of populations

(11) Boost social capital among coastal communities to strengthen community based response.

Building resilience thus requires emphasis on various aspects of disaster cycle.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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7. भारत में अधिक संधारणीय पर्यावरण को बढ़ावा देने के लिए ग्रीन क्रेडिट प्रोग्राम किस प्रकार कार्बन प्रबंधन से कहीं अधिक विस्तृत है? इसके कार्यान्वयन के संबंध में विभिन्न चिंताएं क्या हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

How does the Green Credit Programme extend beyond carbon management to promote a more sustainable environment in India? What are the various concerns about its implementation? (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Green Credit Programme announced by Union Budget 2023 aims to incorporate polluters pay principle in environmental management.

Green Credit Programme (GCP)

* industries can undertake measures to improve environment - cutting emissions, afforest etc - in return for which they will be given green credits to use for various environmental requirements (RPOs, tax etc).
* It aims to deepen carbon market in India.

Goes beyond carbon management

① Holistic view of environmentaly beneficial efforts → not just emissions centric

② proactive incentivization of private sector

③ influences private sector to mainstream "greening" measures.

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④ Aims to promote biodiversity, green-blue infrastructures etc.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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However, concerns

① can be used as a way to shirk emission control responsibility

② greenwashing by private sector.

③ unlike emissions control, no quantitative measure possible - chances of fraud.

④ Can become a perverse incentive to "pay & pollute"

⑤ concerns regarding whether such efforts can be double accounted (as part of CSR too)

Despite its flaws, GCP is an innovative approach to sustainable & participatory environmental management. The recent India-Japan partnership on the same bodes well.

VisionIAS

8. जब पहले से ही अन्य उपग्रह नेविगेशन सिस्टम उपलब्ध हैं, तो NavIC की आवश्यकता क्यों है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
What is the need for NavIC when existing satellite navigation systems are already available? (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

NavIC is a constellation of geosynchronous & geostationary satellites that is used to provide regional navigation through positioning system launched by ISRO.

Need for NAVIC

① Reliance on foreign navigation systems - Security risk (eg: USA's reluctance during Kargil).

② Higher granularity possible - more detailed & high frequency of data for ~~sev~~ research.

③ Reduces operation costs for Indian private sector → no need to buy geospatial data.

④ In line with India's geospatial liberalization policy - improves Coverage.

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⑤ Soft power → can be used to provide navigational systems to neighbouring countries or SAARC.

⑥ Improved ISRO's capacities – can be used to expand NavIC into global system in future.

⑦ Improved access to 2x2 cm grid data to military which was not possible earlier.

⑧ Provides lesser chances of failure as geospatial navigation data becomes critical for various functions.

NavIC's significance lies in the fact that India has joined an elite list of nations with their own navigational system.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

VisionIAS

9. साइबर-सक्षम वित्तीय अपराध वैश्विक धन शोधन (मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग) के नए क्षेत्र के रूप में उभरा है। चर्चा कीजिए। सरकार इस मुद्दे का समाधान किस प्रकार कर सकती है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Cyber-enabled financial crime has emerged as the new frontier of global money laundering. Discuss. How can the government address this issue? (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Money laundering refers to the conversion of illegal proceeds of crimes into legitimate money through a process of:

Placement → layering → integration

Cyber financial crimes have exacerbated this.

- frauds
- social engineering
- hacking
- ransomwares

New frontiers of global ML

① allows for cross border transfer ∴ ease in placement of such money in tax havens
(eg Cyprus.

② use of blockchain technology increases anonymity of criminals - difficult to track & prove crimes.

③ use of NFTs & crypto assets to store value (similar to artworks)

VisionIAS

Measures to address

1. Special Financial Crimes unit specializing in cyber crimes.
2. Strict regulation of virtual assets
3. NIC & CERT-In to develope defenses against cyber crimes.
4. Global Collaboration to improve coordination.
5. Creating firewalls against cyber intrusions in sensitive, critical sectors (eg: banking).
6. Amendments of PMLA to address cyber crimes issue.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

VisionIAS

10. इंडियन आर्मी वर्ष 2024 को 'प्रौद्योगिकी समावेशन वर्ष (Year of Technology Absorption)' के रूप में मना रही है। इसके आलोक में, स्पष्ट कीजिए कि भारत के रक्षा क्षेत्रक में प्रौद्योगिकी के समावेशन की आवश्यकता क्यों है। इस पहल में भारत को किन चुनौतियों का सामना करना पड़ सकता है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The Indian Army is observing the year 2024 as the 'Year of Technology Absorption'. In light of this, explain why there is a need for technology absorption in the defence sector of India. What challenges can India face in this initiative? (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Lt. Gen Raj Shukla has called for greater civil-military deepening in order to boost technology absorption in Indian Army.

Need for technology absorption

1. To overcome challenges of cyberwarfare & 5th gen warfare
2. Better monitoring of borders eg drones, satellites
3. Improved border management eg ~~e-fens~~ smart fencing.
4. New age weaponry such as 5th gen fighter ~~jets~~ jets etc needed to challenge China.
5. Improve & reform archaic communication systems, protocols eg incorporation of satellite phones etc.

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Challenges

(8) Reliance on foreign tech due to underdeveloped Indian sector.

(7) interoperability issues of various technologies

(8) high capital expenditure required.

(9) lack of training & in house R&D.

(10) greater exposure to cyber attacks if systems digitized.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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11. भारत के पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्र (NER) में व्यापार एवं उद्योगों के विकास में किन समस्याओं का सामना करना पड़ा है? इन समस्याओं से निपटने हेतु किए गए उपायों पर टिप्पणी कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)
What are the issues faced in the development of trade and industries in the North-Eastern Region (NER) of India? Comment on the measures that have been taken to tackle these issues. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

North East Region (NER) of India has suffered from relatively lower rate of development due to a host of geographical, political, social & historical factors.

~~Geographical factors impo~~

Issues faced in trade, ~~and~~ industries development

① Lack of connectivity with mainland India except through narrow siliguri corridor

② Difficult terrain impacting creation of high density roads - hinders exchange & market.

③ Relative isolation in political circles → lack of regional development policies

④ lack of adequate raw materials for development of ~~trade~~ industries.

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⑤ Human resource - lack of education to meet industry needs / skills + poor health outcomes due to drug menace.

⑥ Disaster prone region - floods (Assam); landslides; earthquakes

⑦ Lack of very large mineral reserves in NE - reduces incentives for industrial localization.

⑧ Security threats due to regionalism, tribal isolationism & insurgency ~~to~~ Manipur crisis.

⑨ Lack of regional integration due to / border disputes etc.

⑩ Poor export orientedness & International Connectivity

Measures to overcome

① Dedicated Department for NER to include it in policy matters (NITI Aayog also has dedicated cell).

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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(2) Road density increased under Bharatmala + integration through various bridge infastructure projects.

(3) Act East Policy + Transnational infra projects (Kaladan; Trilateral Highway; waterways) to improve international orientedness

(4) Development of agro-processing sunrise sector industries (eg: in Assam).

(5) Security improvement to ensure conducive business atmosphere. & all weather roads, tunnels

(6) Improved human resource managment - opening of various ITIs etc.

NER can emerge as an untapped potential for industrial & trade growth but further measures need to be incorporated such as incentives for private sector etc. to reap benefits of the efforts that have already been put.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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VisionIAS

12. जलवायु परिवर्तन और बढ़ते जल संकट के युग में, सूक्ष्म सिंचाई प्रणालियां भारत में संधारणीय कृषि पद्धतियों में किस प्रकार योगदान दे सकती हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

In the era of climate change and growing water scarcity, how can micro-irrigation systems contribute to sustainable agricultural practices in India? (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Microirrigation has the potential to cut water use by 45% while boosting productivity by 50%.

Microirrigation (MI) systems contributing to sustainable agriculture -

① Reduced water wastage from farm flooding methods.

② Increased production as water use efficiency increases in roots.

③ Reduced cost of water drawing (from canals, wells) → ↑ profits left for reinvestment.

④ Can be used for ~~micro~~ fertigation i.e. use of limited fertilizers ∴ ↑ soil health.

⑤ Soil alkalization & salinity prevented
Eg reh soils in Indra Gandhi canal areas of Rajasthan.

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(6) Shift to agro-climatically suited crops possible as success of drip irrigation in rice, sugarcane.

(7) Promote rainwater harvesting on fields (eg: farm ponds) as lesser water needed.

Case Study
Adilabad - Farm Ponds + Micro irrigation led to ↑ tomato yields

(8) MI systems promote use of other technology such as satellite based water input etc → ↑ scientific agronomic practices.

(9) Reduces surface runoff & loss of topsoil ∴ ↑ sustainability.

(10) MI systems require lesser long term investments ∴ divert resources to good fertilizer, seeds.

However MI is not a guarantor of sustainability

(1) requires electricity supply to function.

(2) high initial investment needed → promotes penury in farm sector.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

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(3) Needs to be coupled with other measures such as agro climatic mapping, revival of natural farming etc

MI is being promoted through MI Fund of NABARD along with PMFBY's more crop per drop vertical.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

VisionIAS

13. भारतीय रेलवे में माल परिवहन से संबंधित समस्याओं का समाधान करने तथा घरेलू माल ढुलाई में इसकी हिस्सेदारी बढ़ाने के लिए कौन-सी रणनीतियां अपनाई जा सकती हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

What strategies can be adopted to overcome the issues pertaining to freight transportation in the Indian Railways and increase its share in the domestic freight? (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Freight transportation in India has been dominated by railways due to its spread & reliability. However, there are certain issues.

Issues in freight trasport

- first & last mile connectivity
- various interior locations not services
- poor management of freight - instances of delayed delivery
- lack of mechanization & digitization.
- Competition from roadways

Strategies to be adopted

① Improve management system through digitized loading, offloading.

② Improve railway penetration in forested, hilly areas

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③ Reduce cost of freight handling through PPP to improve efficiency.

④ Improve reliability of railways - currently marred by delays.

⑤ Develop select stations as land ports in order to boost logistics

⑥ Integrate Railways with other modes of transport seamlessly.

⑦ Kisan Rail initiative can be used to improve share in agri freight.

⑧ ~~Conto~~ Create refrigerated trains to transport perishable goods over long distances.

⑨ Intra city freight trains can be run to improve share in transport + alliviate pressure on roads.

⑩ Improve efficiency of freight trains by using AI to manage routes, interoperability etc.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

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Fright transport share in Indian Railways should be increased to improve operational costs of Railways while reducing overall cost of logistics in India.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

VisionIAS

14. उन कारकों पर चर्चा कीजिए जिन्होंने नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा क्षेत्र में प्रभावशाली प्रगति करने और वैश्विक नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा परिवर्तन में अग्रणी के रूप में स्थापित होने में भारत की सहायता की है। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the factors that have aided India in making impressive strides in the renewable energy sector and establishing itself as a frontrunner in the global renewable energy transition. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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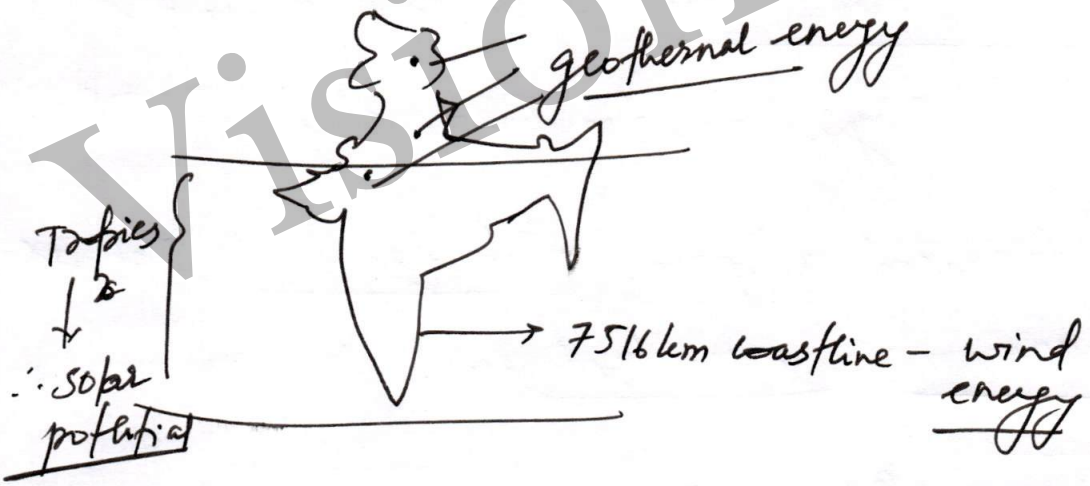
India has emerged as a global leader in renewable energy sector evident by its meeting of NDC targets within the required time frame.

Factors contributing to Indian success

① Geographical suitability



② Political leadership
- International Solar Alliance
- Global Biofuels Alliance (G20)

③ Development of requisite technologies
- PV cells for its RNE needs.

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(4) Agricultural prowess → assisting growth of renewable biofuel sector.

(5) Conducive policies

- Renewable Purchase Obligations for DISCOMs
- PM-KUSUM scheme etc.

(6) HEP (Hydroelectric power) growth due to joint projects with Nepal; Bhutan along with development of multipurpose irrigation projects.

(7) International support - as part of G8's Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP)

(8) Increased adoption of bridge fuels such as ammonia, green hydrogen.

However, there are some hindrances

(9) reliance on China for various critical minerals such as silicon for PV cells, neodymium for wind mills etc.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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(10) Non operationalization of various RNE projects such as those for OTEC; tidal energy etc.

(11) high costs of electricity produced using RNE technologies.

(12) lack of RNE compatible appliances for domestic ~~cons~~ use ∴ ↓ demand.

(13) RNE technologies such as those used in wind mill blades are controversial – require highly carbonized processes to manufacture.

Solutions to these issues

- improve R&D
- boost investment in local mineral exploration
- energy storage issue – battery technology.

Apart from this the potential of nuclear energy needs to be utilized for improving clean energy production.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

VisionIAS

15. उर्वरकों और कीटनाशकों से युक्त कृषि अपवाह पर्यावरण प्रदूषण में किस प्रकार योगदान देता है? कृषि अपवाह के प्रभाव को कम करने के लिए क्या उपाय अपनाए जा सकते हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

How does agricultural runoff containing fertilizers and pesticides contribute to environmental pollution? What measures can be taken to mitigate the impact of agricultural runoff? (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Agri runoff from fields in the form of fertilizers & biocides carry various chemicals & organophosphates contributing to ~~agri pol~~ pollution.

Runoff role in pollution

① land pollution ⇒ contamination of soils - loss of biodiversity & soil organic matter.

② water pollution ⇒

2.1 leads to eutrophication & algal blooms

2.2 increased chemical oxygen demand (COD) harming aquatic ecology as water deoxygenated

2.3 impacts pH levels of water.

2.4 reduces biofiltration capacity of water bodies.

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(2.5) biomagnification & bioaccumulation of chemicals in species.

(3) Air pollution → Contaminated soils are picked up by winds eg loess region of China.

(4) Marine pollution → in coastal agri - harms coral reefs, causes algal blooms.

Measures to mitigate impact

(1) ~~use~~ maintainance of wetlands that have biofiltration capacity.

(2) use of organic fertilizers

(3) improve fertigation to reduce runoff (use micro irrigation)

(4) Innovative replacements (eg: nano - urea spray).

(5) treatment of catchment water bodies

(6) shift to natural farming techniques - avoidance of all fertilizers.

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(7) Treatment of agri soils on the basis of Soil Health card data.

Mitigation of agri runoff needs to start by building farmer awareness & promoting nature stewardship.

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16. हिमालयी राज्यों में पर्यटकों की बढ़ती संख्या ने उनके पारिस्थितिकीय समावेशन क्षमता को पार कर लिया है, जिसके कारण बड़े पैमाने पर मानव-जनित आपदाएं उत्पन्न हुई हैं। संधारणीय पर्यटन को बढ़ावा देते हुए ऐसी आपदाओं को रोकने के लिए क्या उपाय किए जा सकते हैं? प्रासंगिक उदाहरणों के साथ चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The growing influx of tourists in Himalayan states has breached their ecological carrying capacity, leading to significant man-made disasters. What measures can be implemented to prevent such disasters while promoting sustainable tourism? Discuss with relevant examples. (Answer in 250 words) 15

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Himalayan tourism (eg: at Kashmir; Shimla; Mussoorie or in North East) is a major cause for environmental degradation of its fragile ecosystems.

Tourism induced disasters

① ↑ water demand → ↓ water availability → drought conditions in Shimla.

② creation of various infastructure → oversteepening of slope → landslides (eg: NER)

③ over concertization, building of resorts etc – land subsidence. (eg: Joshimath)

④ ecological collapse in fragile ecosystems due to plastic pollution etc. – declining biodiversity.

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Measures to prevent

① Staggered tourism → to reduce sudden influx (eg: done during various Yatras in Kashmir, Uttarakhand).

② Early warning systems in highly popular ~~agri~~ tourism locations → boost preparation. ~~to~~ landslide risk in Kashmir.

③ Slope stabilization measures through afforestation, stone netting etc.

④ Promotion of eco-tourism i.e. nature based homestays instead of large resorts.

⑤ Land use classification & management to be strictly enforced.

⑥ Water management through integrated measures - groundwater & surface water - reduce contamination by preventing plastic pollution.

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⑦ Implement pollutor pays principle strictly in all states.

⑧ Creation of climate resilient infra to overcome avalanches, snowfall, cloud bursts etc.

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17. सुपरकंडक्टर्स विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी के विभिन्न क्षेत्रकों में नवाचार को किस प्रकार बढ़ावा देते हैं? उदाहरण सहित स्पष्ट कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

How do superconductors fuel innovation in diverse fields of science and technology? Illustrate with examples. (Answer in 250 words) 15

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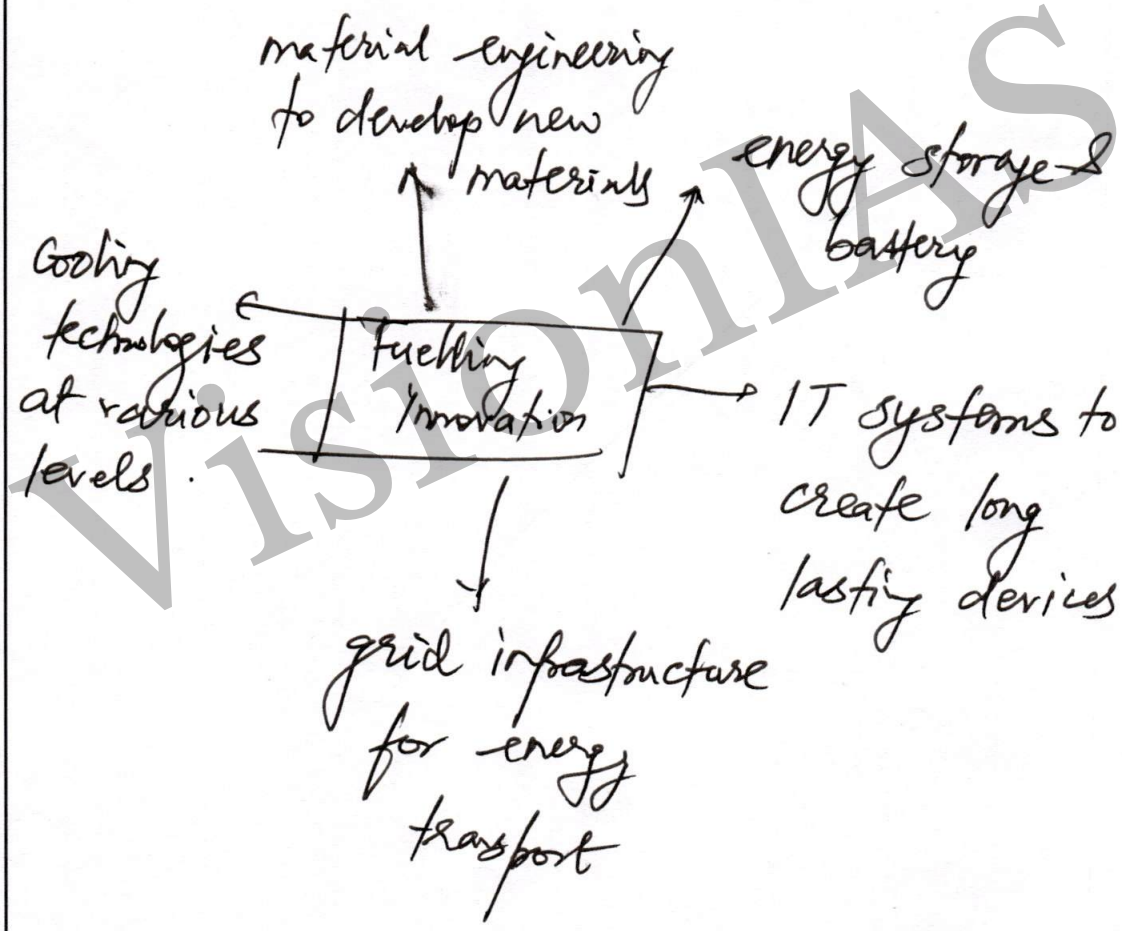
Superconductors are materials that let electricity flow without resistance usually at very low temperatures.



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18. यद्यपि भारत में लगभग सभी प्रकार के बौद्धिक संपदा अधिकारों को कवर करने वाले कानून मौजूद हैं, फिर भी अनेक प्रवर्तन संबंधी, विनियामकिय और प्रशासनिक चुनौतियां भारत में बौद्धिक संपदा अधिकारों के व्यावसायीकरण में बाधा उत्पन्न करती हैं। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

While India has laws covering almost all types of intellectual property rights, numerous enforcement, regulatory and administrative challenges hamper the commercialisation of IPRs in India. Elaborate. (Answer in 250 words) 15

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Challenges to IPR Commercialization

① lack of adequate enforcement

② long lasting litigation

③ SC verdicts that uphold creation of generics / replacements.

④ lack of repositories

⑤ long processing durations for IPR claims

⑥ complex bureaucratic rules & Ka

⑦ lack of specific regulatory body overseeing implementation.

⑧ absence of adequate punishments as deterrance for IPR violation.

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This is impacting India's Relationship with USA.

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19. एकीकृत थियेटर कमान का निर्माण करने में सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों को ध्यान में रखते हुए, परीक्षण कीजिए कि कमानों का थिएटराइजेशन किस प्रकार तीनों सेनाओं के बीच जनशक्ति और संसाधनों के बेहतर एकीकरण और युक्तिकरण को बढ़ावा दे सकता है। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Keeping in view the challenges in creating integrated theatre commands, examine how the theaterisation of commands can lead to greater integration and rationalisation of manpower and resources among the three services. (Answer in 250 words) 15

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~~The~~ Theatrisation refers to creation of specific geographical commands within which all 3 services – army, navy, airforce works in tandem.

Benefits

1. Increased interoperability - similar command structures, objectives, training.
2. Reduced redundancy in various ancillary services
3. better training to respond to crisis holistically.
4. lower expenditure on reverse affairs
5. lower procurement costs

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(b) faster response times under unified command.

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20. सीमावर्ती गांवों को न केवल भौगोलिक दृष्टि से बल्कि सुविधाओं के मामले में भी प्रथम गांव मानना, सीमा सुरक्षा बढ़ाने की एक प्रमुख रणनीति हो सकती है। विवेचना कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संबंध में सरकार द्वारा किए जा रहे उपायों पर भी प्रकाश डालिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Treating border villages as first villages not just geographically but also in terms of facilities can be a key strategy for enhancing border security. Discuss. Also, highlight the measures being taken by the government in this regard. (Answer in 250 words) 15

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The vibrant villages programmes aims to treat border villages as first villages

Key strategy

Security

- enhanced vigilance against infiltration
- village defence guards - 1st line of defence

facilities

- greater social capital
- prevent alienation
- counter Chinese propaganda.

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